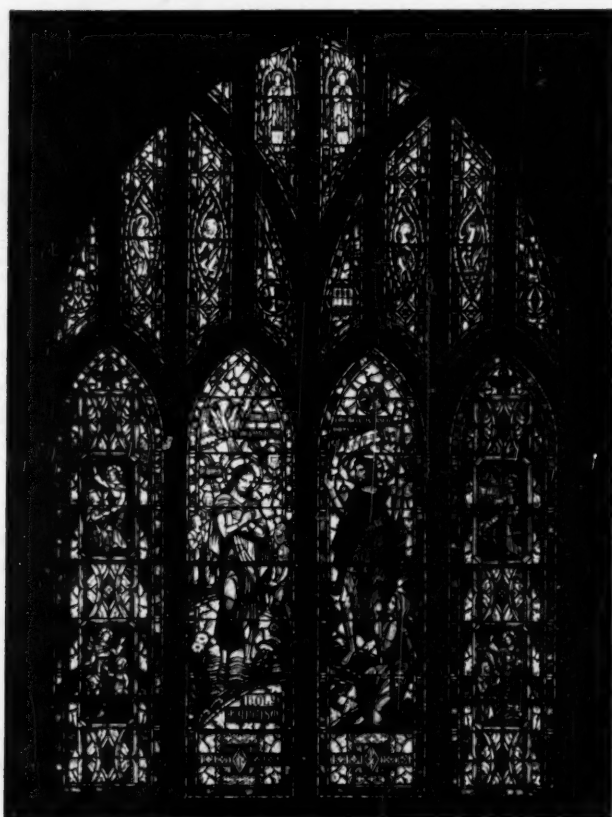


New Churches—Alterations—Church Housekeeping

Church Management



Illustration, courtesy of Payne-Splers Studios, Inc.
WINDOW IN ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Passaic, New Jersey

OCTOBER
1949

VOLUME XXVI
NUMBER ONE



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To explain triumph is to put all the accent on the first syllable.

* * *

True concentration admits no reservation.

* * *

Some people learn from their experiences, others never recover from them.

* * *

Do not do unto others as you have been undone by them.

* * *

A young man boasts that he has a car that can pass everything on the road—except a tavern.

* * *

There are only four things that are really worth-while: to gain wisdom, to do good, to be kind and to have faith in God.

* * *

Memory test: recall all the good things you have said about your neighbors.

* * *

Cooperation is so conducting yourself that others can and will want to work with you.

* * *

God dislikes melancholy and depressed spirits because they show a lack of faith.

* * *

A person can hate you wholeheartedly but if you refuse to give him anything but friendliness his hate will usually die of starvation.

* * *

The truth is hard to find. Unless all of us make an about-face and become honest and forthright in our dealings with each other, the time may arrive when we won't even trust ourselves.

* * *

Fifty per cent of sick persons need prayer more than pills, aspiration more than aspirin, meditation more than medication.—E. Stanley Jones

* * *

Evil can be overcome by doing good. One can at least make the attempt if opportunity presents itself.

* * *

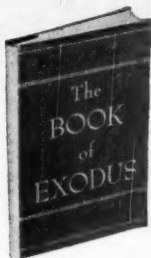
Whether you be habitually happy and cheerful, or low-spirited and fearful, depends entirely on the quality of the mental food upon which you diet.

* * *

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THE EDITOR'S DRAWER

Good Neighbors Indeed

Great catastrophes seem inevitable in this world of ours. They cause tragedy, death and suffering. But it is unusual not to find, in the midst of flames and destruction, evidences of human kindness.

We of *Church Management* are especially grateful to a Toronto couple. Mrs. Tweedle of our office and a friend were passengers on the ill-fated Canadian S. S. *Noronic*. Driven from the boat by the flames, they were strangers in a foreign city seeking a place to rest. This particular couple introduced themselves and invited our friends to their home. There they enjoyed a good room, meals and splendid hospitality. It softened the bitterness of the tragedy.

We have thought that our many Canadian readers would appreciate this mention of a generous courtesy by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Moore and their charming daughters of Toronto.

William H. Leach

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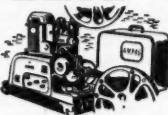
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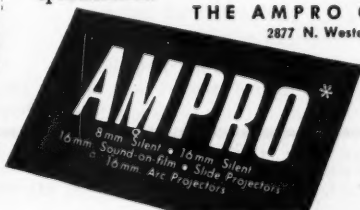
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Ministerial Oddities

Collected by Thomas H. Warner

A misprint: A dispatch from Hastings, Nebraska, said that Rev. Frank Schroeder of the United Brethren Church, hastened to explain to his congregation that it was merely a slip of the typewriter when members of the flock caught this sentence, in the weekly bulletin, "The sinning should be top notch this morning for we have ample hymnals!"

An embarrassment: Vice-Admiral Sir John Edgell, speaking at Croydon, England, recently, suddenly went crimson. Flipping over his notes hastily, he said: "I am afraid I shall have to stop my prepared speech. I find that by mistake I have brought along the shopping list my wife gave me this morning, instead of my notes."

A disheartening poll: In 1949 the *News-Chronicle* made a survey of the church-going habits of the English people. It reported that 15 per cent of those questioned went to church on Sunday and 72 per cent listened to one or more of the religious programs on the radio.

Co-operation: Last Christmas a party was held by Christians in a Buddhist temple. Entel Testmomatau, chief priest of Kanda Temple, Tokyo, agreed to let the near-by Anglican Church use the temple because its own building is still being repaired from wartime damage.

English humor: At the annual prize-giving at Croydon's famous old Whitgift School, the bishop of Croydon told the boys a story with a moral. During the war a detachment of English soldiers were dug in at the Anzio beach-head and the enemy was plastering them with gunfire.

In their trench Bill said shivering to Alf, "Do you know a hymn, Alf?" "No," said Alf. Crash went a shell. "Do you know a prayer, then?" asked Bill. "No," replied Alf. Crash went another shell. "Oh, Lord," groaned Bill, "can't you do anything religious?" "O. K.," said Alf, "here goes," and standing up he took off his helmet and started taking a collection. "Corny," remarked one of the boys.

During the war a stage comedian made London laugh with this story. A crowd of German airmen arrived at the gates of heaven and clamored to get in. "Who are you?" asked St. Peter. "We're

(Turn to page 8)

CHURCH MANAGEMENT

Edited by William H. Leach



VOLUME XXVI
NUMBER I
OCTOBER, 1949

Bureaucracy Paves the Highway to Collectivism

THE curbing of individual liberties in the world is not purely a social and political issue. It is basically spiritual. Democratic religions, such as Christian Protestantism, need the soil of freedom for their expression. They are based on the concept that man is a free agent and must act on his convictions and conscience. The police state insists that man must act on the conscience of the state. When personal thinking is curbed, personal actions restricted, democratic religions suffer.

Every honest Protestant shares the alarm at the passing of individual liberties in the world—including the United States of America. Political orators are doubtless right in their proclamations that the United States is the bulwark of individual liberty. But in their enthusiasm they are blind to the evidence of a growing bureaucracy in this nation which will, unless curbed, lead to collectivism. With this democratic religion is concerned.

The highway to collectivism is paved with bureaucracy. That pavement is being well laid at the present time. One by one the municipal, state and federal governments take over the responsibilities of the individual. Public employment increases; taxes on the individual increase, more and more the control of one's life rests in the hands of governmental bureaus.

In the Jeffersonian concept of democracy public officials are the servants of the people. Techniques are provided for the office holder to keep in touch with the wishes of the electorate. Any tendency for public officials to take over the thinking of the people is a step toward bureaucracy—it is the building of the pavement of collectivism. Administration by executive order is practical collectivism.

One does not have to go to the federal bureaus to find evidences of the police state in America. The backwoods justice may become judge, jury and executioner when a traffic violator is brought before him. The traffic cop in our cities becomes an arbitrary ruler when, with violent gesture, and often uncalled-for profanity, he directs the stranger in the city. The tax office which displays the large sign publicizing legal fines for non-return of the form belongs in the same category. The government bureau which sends us the long forms which go into every detail of one's business and then emphasizes the punishment due if not filled out in detail is a good example of bureaucracy.

But for the best illustration of bureaucracy in action—or the welfare state as some cautious people prefer to call it—go to Washington. Here the funds are the greatest; here the authority has become the mightiest; here our public servants have become most efficiently isolated from the people they are supposed to serve; here the power to tax and to destroy is supreme.

The writer of this editorial happens to be one of the individuals who enjoys paying taxes. An efficient, honest, democratic government is the best possible assurance of individual freedom. But the abuse of the governmental power, the multiplicity of agencies and bureaus, and, the increasing burden of public taxation, the pyramiding of public employment, the scandalous evidences of abuse of expense funds is rather hard to take. It may be time to revive the cry of the Revolutionary days: "millions for defense but not one cent for tribute." We expect these things during war times and can tolerate them; but the war, at least fighting war, has been over for some time.

Bureaucracy is not the child of a one political party. There are sixty million Americans who have never seen any party in power

except the Democratic. So it is natural to associate these abuses with that party. But it is not constitutional with the democratic party. Indeed, early democracy was its outspoken foe. As late as Woodrow Wilson our Democratic party would have no part of it.

The minister who expresses his convictions against the growing spirit of collectivism need not feel that he is partisan. The issue is spiritual. Read the opening lines of the Sermon on the Mount from the Gospel of Matthew, then look over the latest issue of the United States Governmental Manual. You will readily see the conflict.

The ethic of Jesus calls for simplicity; our government prefers complexity. The Sermon on the Mount emphasizes humility, our government thrives on its power to embarrass and threaten; the ideal of Jesus is personal service, the government manual emphasizes power. The Sermon on the Mount points the individual toward spiritual freedom; the government is moving toward collectivism.

Too Much Fertilizer

THE Sunday school lesson was on the Parable of the Sower. The speaker, a farmer—and apparently a good one. "Jesus missed one thing in that parable," he said. "He should have told what happens when the seed falls on

the soil which has been over-fertilized. Take me for instance . . ."

Then followed a story I had heard many times. Too much religion in the home. Too much pressure to get the clothes on for Sunday school. Too long and tiresome sermons. Too lengthy family prayers. Too much Bible language in the home. Too much talking and not enough living.

"I am a good example," he said, "of the seed which had too much fertilizer. It took me many years before I could overcome the burning the fertilizer gave me."

Yes, I had heard the story many times before but the sincerity of the man was convincing. He used the parable effectively. I knew he was not trying to excuse himself. As a farmer he had learned that too much fertilizer can spoil the seed.

Then I thought of the thousands and thousands of busy churches dotting the country; of preaching to which there is no end; of homes which have pressured their children into church and Sunday school; of boys and girls denied healthy social activities in the name of religion. I think that perhaps the farmer had something. There may be such a thing as using too much fertilizer.

But, don't forget that the job of the church is to create the good soil for Christian growth. It is not simply the matter of pouring on the fertilizer.

Comma-itus*

TOO many cooks spoil the broth. Too many commas slow up copy.

There are rules and more rules about where you should and should not put commas in advertising copy. With the trend toward streamlining and fast-paced copy, there are times when today's writer wonders whether his sixth grade grammar rules on punctuation will stand the test.

As in most matters, good old common sense usually saves the day and the rule. The main function of a comma is to make sentences clear. If a sentence is clear without it, then your copy will be speeded up by eliminating the unnecessary pause for breath, and the break in thought which the comma demands.

To aid your common-sense decisions, these basic rules regarding commas should not be overlooked:

Use a comma to separate a series of adjectives (gives clarity to sentence

and drama to copy): It is beautiful, elegant, superb, and useful.

Use a comma to set off a word that expresses a direct address (adds personal emphasis, too, and flattery): "Son, thou art ever with me." "Reader, we have your interest at heart."

Use a comma to separate two similar words placed together in a sentence (gives swing to repetition): Where the box is, is not commonly known.

When an adverbial clause begins a sentence, separate it from what follows by a comma: Brightly colored as they are, the pictures failed to make an impression.

Use a comma to indicate the omission, for brevity, or convenience, of a word or words readily understood from the context: In Illinois there are seventeen such institutions; in Ohio, twenty-one.

Today's best authorities agree that use of the comma is mainly a matter of good judgment, with ease of reading as the end in view.

Ministerial Oddities

(From page 6)

the fifty German airmen who were shot down today by the R.A.F.," was the reply. Said St. Peter, "Wait a minute while I have a look at the German communique." After reading it he came back and announced, "It says here that only two German airmen were shot down today. So two of you can come in. The rest of you go back to Hitler."

RUSSIA HAS THE ATOMIC BOMB

Announcement to this effect has alarmed many people. We suggest to readers of *Church Management* that they turn back to our January 1948 issue, page 80. Under the caption "Does Russia Know the Atomic Secret," an editorial discusses the work of Professor Peter Kapitza, Russian physicist, who was working for the British government before World War II seeking to perfect a method of atomic fission. At the beginning of the war he returned to Russia. The facts were published in an American book and could have been general knowledge.

*From "Printed Words," published by Von Hoffman Press, Inc., St. Louis 2, Missouri.

American Policies in Asia

Strength and Weaknesses of Our Foreign Policy

by Robert J. Oliver*

AS the State Department appoints a Committee of Three to review American policy in the Far East, it is appropriate to summarize what that policy has been in the immediate past. The distinguished three—Ambassador-at-large Philip C. Jessup, Raymond B. Fosdick, former president of the Rockefeller Foundation, and Dr. Everett Case, president of Colgate University—are turning their attention to an area often described as “confused,” “complicated,” “difficult to understand.” Yet there is general agreement that it can no longer be ignored.

What the United States stands for in Asia, what we are trying to accomplish in that part of the world, what obstacles we are meeting, and how we are attempting to overcome them is a story little known, but not without deep significance. Power-hungry Russia, slowed down if not yet blocked in Europe, is finding a wide-open field in the Far East. Just as Japan's empire-building drew us into the last war, so may Soviet ambitions among a billion Asians force us into another war of survival. What we are doing and what we are failing to do in the area sprinkled with such unfamiliar names as Korea, Siam, Indo-China, Indonesia, and the vast region in which they lie, may spell the difference between life and death for boys now riding their bicycles off to school.

What Asia Is Doing

The Far East is a yeast ferment of rapid change, making spectacular strides that may shape our future destiny far more basically than the domestic and European concerns in which our attention is immersed.

In an area in which nationalism until recently meant no more than it did in Europe before the Crusades, there have arisen new nations in Korea, Burma, India, and Ceylon, with China, Indonesia, and Indo-China struggling to achieve the same definitive nationality. In a part of the world that offers only half an acre of food-producing soil per

capita, as compared with some three and a half acres in the United States, agricultural skill has developed so highly that a Chinese farmer produces forty-two bushels of rice per acre, as compared to twenty-five bushels of wheat on an unexhausted American farm. In an area where literacy has been a luxury of the leisure class, as was true in Europe during the Middle Ages, and in many parts of which the written languages are no less cumbersome than was medieval Latin, millions of children and adults are for the first time learning to read and write. Korea and Siam, fortunate in possessing phonetic alphabets, are rapidly coming abreast of the literate populations of the West. Even China, with the most difficult written language in the world, has increased its literates by millions, under the tireless leadership of its scholar-educator, Dr. Y. T. James Yen.

Although the per capita use of iron, a basic index of industrialization, is only about 180th as great as in the United States, the shift in every Asian country is away from overcrowded farmlands into new factory towns. Under the pressure of a population that has roughly doubled in the last generation in all North Asia, this trend will unquestionably accelerate. In all Asia except Japan, militarism has been belittled, on the theory that “good iron is not used to make a nail nor a good man to make a soldier.” Yet, under the spur of the new nationalism and

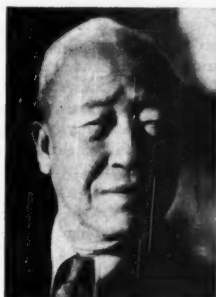
the aggressive threat of Communism, armies are rapidly being recruited and trained. Merchants have been even more disparaged on the ground that they do not contribute wealth, but merely amass it. Yet this attitude, too, is losing ground in favor of developing trade to win for Asia the industrial products enjoyed in the West.

With all the changes, it is doubtful that the East will merely imitate the advances made in the West. The Orient has too long and solid a culture of its own to be swept off its feet by its belated discovery of machine mass production. Prior to 1760 there were more books published in Chinese than in all other languages combined. Philosophically and artistically Asia was centuries ahead of Europe. The Oriental character is based upon deep and sound roots that will neither wither nor be supplanted by new growth. It may be expected that the development of the Far East will create new attitudes and methods that will profoundly affect the civilization of the now dominant West.

Philosophically, Asians are reared in a belief that man is fundamentally good, as contrasted with the orthodox Christian doctrine of original sin. They believe less than we do in restraint, and more than we do in self-discipline and community responsibility. What we too commonly dismiss as “face” is actually to the Oriental a deep sense of personal duty to live a worthy life.

Economically, Westerners compete for self-advancement, whereas the Asian has of necessity learned to cooperate for survival. In Asia, it is not “every man for himself,” but “first the family, then the village, and the individual last of all.” Village communalism—the antithesis of totalitarian Communism—is centuries old. Where a man lives and dies within ear-shot of his friends, there is little chance to forget their welfare for the sake of advancing his own.

The ancient Chinese classic, *The Great Learning*, summed up the Asian way of life as follows: “The ancients who wished to be illustriously virtuous throughout the kingdom, first ordered well their own states. Wishing to order well their own states, they first



DR. SYNGMAN RHEE
President of the Republic of Southern Korea.
Readers may recall him as a former contributor to “Church Management”

*The author has served as college professor and writer. He has learned first hand the situations of the lands about which he writes. At the present time he is consultant to the Korean Pacific Press and has recently returned from two months' spent in that country. He is Chairman of the Department of Speech, at the Pennsylvania State College.

regulated their families. Wishing to regulate their families, they first cultivated their persons. Wishing to cultivate their persons, they first rectified their hearts. Wishing to rectify their hearts, they first sought to be sincere in their thoughts."

Considering the advances being made among the billion inhabitants of the Far East, it is well to be aware of the fundamental life-view which they hold. For the chances are very great that one day this view will be also infused through the countries of the West.

Shifts in American Policy

American policy in Asia since the time of our Revolutionary War has steadfastly been to increase our commercial stake, to win politically and militarily valuable allies, and to help our missionaries spread our kind of culture in that part of the world. To accomplish these ends, we took over a considerable Pacific empire, in Hawaii, the Philippines, Guam, and Samoa. This policy was extended after the defeat of Japan by our claim of the former Jap-mandated islands and our hold on Okinawa. In 1899 we proclaimed "The Open Door Policy" for China to forestall our commercial exclusion by other powers, and in the next several years, under the threat of Russian and Japanese expansion, we added to that policy a demand for the "territorial and administrative integrity" of China. This demand was given formal sanction by the 1922 Nine-Power Treaty. Prior to 1894 our "good offices" were extended primarily to China; then to Japan until about 1910; and after that back to China again, as Japanese military strength became a serious menace. With post-war Japan in American hands, our policy once again has been chiefly favorable to the homeland of Nippon.

As Cordell Hull has clearly outlined in his *Memoirs*, our aim since the Japanese seizure of Manchuria in 1931 was the restoration of Chinese unity and strength, as a counterpoise to Japanese ambitions. This policy, however, ran second-best at Yalta with our concurrent desire to satisfy Russian demands as a means of getting the Soviets committed to support of the United Nations. We turned over the South Manchurian Railway to Russia, and left Chiang Kai-shek with a legacy of Communist civil war following an eight-year struggle as disastrous for China as was Germany's invasion to Russia prior to our Lend-Lease rescue of the retreating Red armies.

During the war our policy of defeating Germany left China with merely token aid as she bore the brunt of Japanese occupation and attack. Diplomatically, we were more helpful. On

January 11, 1943, we formally gave up our extra-territoriality privileges in China, and urged our other Allies to do the same. In October, 1943, American insistence won for China the right to become a co-signer of the Four Power Declaration launching the United Nations. By December 17 of that year, Congress repealed the Chinese Exclusion Act. At that time, Secretary of State Cordell Hull believed that "if there was ever to be stability in the Far East, it had to be assured with China at the center of any arrangement that was made." This view, however, was changed after Henry Wallace's trip to China in March, 1944, following which he reported to President Roosevelt that Chiang Kai-shek could not stand six months, and that the Chinese Communists were the group upon which we must depend. The Yalta concessions to Russia were direct fruits of the new conception.

Following the defeat of Japan, the philosophy of aiding Russia to extend her hegemony in Asia was briefly pursued. One tangible fruit of it was the Moscow Decision of December, 1945, calling for a five-year trusteeship over Korea, with Russia to be one of the occupying powers. Another was the Marshall mission to China, dispatched with President Truman's warning that it was "the most vital interest of the United States and all the United Nations that the people of China overlook no opportunity to adjust their internal differences promptly and by methods of peaceful negotiation." Spurred by this "vital interest," General Marshall sought for thirteen months to force upon the Kuomintang a coalition with the Yen'an Communists. The net result was the consolidation of Communist control over all north China down to and well beyond the Yangtze River.

A series of disillusionments with Russia led to an abandonment of the Yalta policy of appeasement. In the Far East, it was difficult by this time to see how China could be built up quickly or effectively enough to serve as a bar to Soviet aggression. Japan, solely in our hands, unified, and with a reservoir of industrial skill, seemed a much better bet. Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen, on a trip to Tokyo, stated the trend in American thinking most baldly when he said, "The future of the entire world hangs upon Japan." General MacArthur phrased the idea in a report to the Department of National Defense, dated March 24, 1948: "The economic recovery of Japan is a prerequisite to the economic revival of the Far East." Secretary of the Army Kenneth C. Royall made the same point in an address in January, 1948, in which he said: "We hold to an

equally definite purpose of building in Japan a self-sufficient democracy, strong enough and stable enough to support itself and at the same time to serve as a deterrent against any other totalitarian war threats which might hereafter arise in the Far East."

It is clear that America's Asian eggs have been placed in the Japanese basket. How they got there is primarily a story of our belated reaction to Russian post-war behavior. Having weakened China at the Soviet behest, there has seemed to our policy-makers no alternative to seeking the Asian ally we need in Japan. The arrangement that gives us a free hand there makes it possible to restore Japan more quickly than any other power upon which we might depend. The danger, perhaps under-rated in applying this policy, is that we thereby arouse deep resentment and distrust among all the peoples of Asia who suffered with us from the Japanese attacks, and who now watch in dismayed amazement our preference for our former foe over our faithful allies.

United States in Korea

While the size of China and the strength of Japan give those countries priority in our thinking, American interests in Korea are also vital. There is the only place in the world where Russian and United States forces have come face to face without the intervention of any third power. There is the sample case in which we have displayed most clearly our methods of dealing with the Soviet.

As part of the Yalta pattern of appeasement, a secret agreement was made with Russia for a "temporary" division of Korea along the 38th parallel line. Considered by us only as a convenient demarcation of our joint efforts to defeat Japan, Russia claimed the line as a delineation of her sphere of influence. The Soviets tried to engineer a trusteeship arrangement that would have extended her control throughout Korea for a period of "up to five years," and would have succeeded except for the point-blank refusal of Korean patriots, led by Dr. Syngman Rhee, to accept any such proposal.

For three years, while the United States uneasily waited for Russia to develop a willingness to cooperate, the Soviets proceeded to build up a conscript army and puppet government in north Korea. Finally, convinced that there would be no agreement, the United States presented the Korean question to the United Nations. The result was an election in the southern half of the country, held on May 10,

(Turn to page 16)



BEFORE AND AFTER

The illustrations show the effective reconstruction of the Federated Church, Genoa, New York, under the leadership of the pastor, Robert L. Clingan.

A Catechism of Church Building

Questions Which Subscribers Ask the Editor
of CHURCH MANAGEMENT

by William H. Leach*

How shall we find the proper location for our new church?

Probably the Christian answer to this is that the church shall be located where it is most needed. However few churches follow this ideal. They prefer to locate where they are going to have the largest congregations. That is the idea back of this question. The answer is that you should search a site most convenient to your members.

There are some qualifications to this reply. A church should not build a new building in territory which competes with other Christian churches whether of its own or other denominations. Many church federations try to control this by comity agreements. Comity means "just plain courtesy."

It is still important that a church be located near, or on, a main artery of travel. It should be far enough from the car tracks so there will be no disturbing noises. In most of our cities we anticipate that rubber-tired public conveyances will take the place of iron wheels. This will help.

On the whole people find it easier to move in the direction of "downtown" than "out of town." All families do not have automobiles. Seek a place in the central part of your parish, near transportation—one where a good building

area is available.

How much real estate should we buy?

Churches which are going to stay in the heart of the city will be forced by costs to small areas of land. Their buildings will gain in height what is missing in area.

But churches which serve residential sections should buy sufficient real estate for the church building, the manse, the educational building, helpful outdoor activities and space for the parking of automobiles.

The present tendency is away from basements. Architects seek to keep as much of the building above ground as possible. This means that educational and social rooms will require more ground area. Parking is becoming an absolute essential. Some cities have already passed amendments to their building codes requiring new churches to provide space for parking. Others will follow this precedent.

When shall the building committee take over?

Not too soon. The wise leader will give years of educational leadership before launching a building program. The entire congregation needs to know what a church building is and become familiar with modern trends. People should be encouraged to visit the newer churches, read books on the subject,

join pilgrimages to various outstanding churches to learn the meaning and purpose of symbols, windows, rooms, and other features. When the congregation is thoroughly sold on the needs of a new building it is time to have the project take form.

Which is better, a large or small committee?

A large committee is more representative and democratic. A small committee is better for executive procedures. Probably the best way to conserve the values of both plans is to have a large committee representing every organization in the church. Then, at the center, there should be a small executive committee for the actual direction of the work.

The large committee can be divided into sub-committees for studying of various phases of the building in accordance with their particular interests. Some will naturally be interested in the educational rooms, others the kitchen or dining room, others the organ and choir facilities, still others the methods of heating churches, etc. But there needs to be a small group of competent men and women at the heart of the committee which will make the contact with the architect, give instructions, sign contracts, bank the money and pay the bills.

*Author, "Protestant Church Building."

Should the building fund money be handled apart from the regular funds? Are two treasurers necessary?

Yes. The building committee is given a definite piece of work to do. Its job is not finished until the building is turned over to the church and the committee discharged. While functioning as a committee it should have its own bank account and be able to write checks apart from the regular church treasurer. When the committee has concluded its task the trustees of the church have the responsibility of the continuing indebtedness if there be such. But until the committee is discharged let the committee handle its own money.

Is it desirable to have a professional fund-raiser to direct the church building program?

No dogmatic answer can be given. Sometimes the local church has leadership of such a calibre that it will find it easy to organize and direct the financial campaign. But in most situations there is an economy in bringing in specialists. It certainly relieves the minister of a heavy load.

What is the correct type of architecture for a church?

Churches are not tied to any one type or any conventional type of architecture. What may be desirable in a cathedral may be unsuitable for a small parish. There is nothing prettier than the little white New England church. There is no church more majestic than the heavily towered stone Gothic. There is nothing as indigenous to the southwest as the graceful lines and colors of the Spanish. I don't think that one need be tied to any static architectural type.

What about modernistic styles?

Dr. Tralle used to tell me: "Modern architecture for church, yes; modernistic architecture, no." That is my conviction of today. Even here, however, I would not be too dogmatic. The Unitarians in Madison, Wisconsin, who find themselves in conflict with the conservatism of orthodoxy have built a modernistic structure. There seems to be some reason in the matter. But more churches will want to express the vitality of an age-old faith.

Shouldn't the newer churches have the open chancel with the lectern and pulpit? It looks very churchy.

I like the open chancel. It seems to me right architecturally. I like the open aisle with the straight path through the nave to the altar. I do not like to see the choir, nor the clergyman, in a too conspicuous position. But if one is going to let the history of Protestantism guide us there is as much authority for

HOW THAT CUB GROWS!



the center pulpit as the divided chancel. One would have a difficult time arguing that the open chancel with the altar is necessary in the modern church.

I understand that among liturgists in the Episcopal church there is a definite movement to restore the communion table, feeling that something has been lost with too much attention given to the altar. I doubt very much if the open chancel, so common in the new buildings of today is the final word on church worship facilities. I prefer to think that the dogmatic emphasis on the open chancel will later be replaced by a greater tolerance.

This adjective, "churchy" is a peculiar thing. Unquestionably certain types of architecture, with accompanying symbolism produce an atmosphere suitable for worship. Any building which is clean and orderly is better suited for worship than one which is confused with seats, chairs and dust. The open chancel probably does create a sense of devotion for many, for the first time, appreciate the components of public worship. This style of chancel has an advantage over the center pulpit, oratory design.

Why do you speak of the church auditorium as a "sanctuary?"

I don't and I think that its use in this way by some leaders in modern church building is ill-advised. Personally I don't think that you can improve on the word "nave" which has the authority of tradition back of it. The term "sanctuary" has been pre-empted by its use in the historic church to designate the holy of holies.

Why must we keep to straight pews? Other types of seating are more comfortable.

I have often wondered about this, myself. There are a number of counts against the straight pews. They are seldom body-conforming. Seatings are not marked and many times more people are crowded in a pew than should be there. Yet, we have seen little movement toward more comfortable church seating. I have been intrigued by the seating in the Community Church of New York City. The first appearance is that of pews. But as one enters he finds that the pews are divided into comfortable cushioned seats which can be raised to assure passageway. Per-

haps there will be a tendency in this direction.

Church pews as we know them are of comparative recent origin. Neither the church of the early ages nor those of the middle ages had fixed pews nor pulpits. They adjusted themselves to demands. Yet an assumed tradition for the straight pews may be the main obstacle in the evolution of more comfortable seats. We can say this for the pews. They maintain the semblance of order so essential in a building of worship.

If our church has no basement, would it be desirable to have the main entrance near the ground level?

One thing most church leaders are agreed on. The main entrance to the church should be at ground level or one step above it. This is but one of many good reasons for the elimination of a basement, but it is a good one.

Other reasons are the lack of light and ventilation in the basement; the danger of dampness; the great expense of excavation and waterproofed walls. Basements invariably get the dirt and dust of the entire building. Many churches require sufficient basement space for boilers and work shop. Any more should be discouraged.

It has been a hot summer. Why not air condition churches?

Why not, indeed. Complete air conditioning is expensive. While the nave of the church is used one day a week the cost of installation seems prohibitive. It is not as essential to cool the educational rooms as children are not as susceptible to heat as adults.

Air conditioning of churches is being done. But while we are talking in terms of air conditioning let me point out that many churches are not using the resources they now have for cooling and ventilating.

Simple ventilating systems, propelling cool air by fans can do a lot for any church. Open windows will help when they are rightly situated. Portable fans can help to make the atmosphere bearable. One simple technique available to churches, especially those which have open areas about them, is to open the windows for Saturday night allowing the cool night air to fill the building. Then close them for the morning. This technique supplemented with fans will give many churches a cool room for worship.

My observation of churches during the summer time is that they are locked until an hour or so before service. The heat of the week is enclosed within the walls. Good janitor service can help one use the resources for ventilation it has.

Radiant Heating of Churches

BECAUSE of requests which have come to us from subscribers asking for information on radiant heating in churches we recently secured a list of churches which have recently had such installations. While radiant heating is one of the newer types it is evidently proving satisfactory. Readers may feel free to write to any of these churches. Or, if preferred, we can refer inquiries regarding such heating to a qualified authority.

Cuyahoga Falls Baptist Church
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Front Royal, Virginia

Navy Dept. Yards & Docks
Jacksonville, Florida

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Portsmouth, Virginia

St. Patrick's Church
Corpus Christi, Texas

St. Patrick's Church
Meridian, Mississippi

Trinity Lutheran Church
Norfolk, Virginia

Christian Science Church
Edwardsville, Illinois

Brookmont Baptist Church and
Sunday School Building
Brookmont, Maryland

First Reformed Church
Lansing, Illinois

Hungarian Reformed Church
Bridgeport, Connecticut

St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church
Struthers, Ohio

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Greenland Hills Methodist Church
Dallas, Texas

St. Peters Episcopal Church
Brookthorp Hills, Pennsylvania
(Near Broomall, Pa.)

St. Louis Bertrand Church
Louisville, Kentucky

Highland Park Baptist Church
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Rittman Baptist Church
Rittman, Ohio

First Community Church
Glenview, Illinois

Talbot Park Baptist Church
Norfolk, Virginia

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oreland, Pennsylvania

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Chicago, Illinois

Westgate Methodist Church
Columbus, Ohio

Trinity Episcopal Church
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church
Highlandtown, Baltimore, Maryland

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Cheektowaga, New York

United Orthodox Synagogue
Norfolk, Virginia

Lutheran Memorial Church
St. Louis, Missouri

First Christian Church
Fort Morgan, Colorado

Ocean View Baptist Church
Ocean View, Norfolk, Virginia

St. Edwards Church
Blaw Know, Pennsylvania

Epworth Methodist Church
Bucyrus, Ohio

St. John's Episcopal Church
Bethesda, Maryland

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Washington, D. C.

Seventh Day Adventist Church
Trenton, New Jersey

Hilltonia E. U. B. Church
Columbus, Ohio

Mark Gardner Memorial Methodist
Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

City Park Baptist Church
Denver, Colorado

United Presbyterian Church
Cádiz, Ohio

Are individual classrooms a necessity in educational buildings?

Of course they are not a necessity; if they were we would have to say that not one in a hundred churches, on the average, is doing a good educational job.

Not alone are they not a necessity but I sometimes wonder if they are desirable. One hesitates to discuss dogmatically anything in the field of professional religious education. I was ordained in 1911 and it seems to me that the leaders of religious education in our country have changed their minds on educational techniques every two years since that time.

My tutor in church educational building was Henry E. Tralle who believed in individual classrooms. He abhorred any kind of movable or portable partitions in educational rooms. Churches he served usually followed his concepts. But I am sure that a church building does not gain aesthetically with a row of little classrooms which look almost like cells in a prison.

Yet departments and classes need privacy. The practical solution may be a departmental unit, with a place for assembly, with some adjoining classrooms. A class or two could meet in the assembly room. A few portable screens help give privacy. Pleasant, well dec-

orated rooms, with comfortable seats will do much for the morale of the groups.

Is the church school a social or educational institution?

Probably both. The first Sunday schools were religious-social organizations. Their values were more in the social contacts than the quality of instruction. Efforts of the last few years have been to make the schools educational institutions, with the social activities appended. Most schools I know would not rate high in educational standards.

This question is closely tied up with the one above. If you decide that the church school is purely an educational institution probably individual classrooms should be built. I feel that our schools do not qualify in that respect.

Is there any rule to be used as a basis for the cost of a new church building? For instance, our church has 400 members. How much money can we expect from this clientele?

Yes, there have been a number of rules based on careful study and observation. However, they are not based on the number of members. Some churches with but 400 members will raise more money for a new church than others with 1000 members. It depends rather upon the resources of the membership.

For instance, one rule states that any church can afford to invest an amount seven times the size of its combined local church and benevolent budget in a new church building. Thus if its annual local budget is \$10,000 and its benevolent budget is \$5,000 it can plan for a building to cost \$105,000. Four-sevenths of this should be in hand at the time of construction.

Another takes into consideration the type of membership. It is worked out in this way.

1. If a workingman's church multiply the number of members by \$70.
2. If a middle class church multiply the number of members by \$100.
3. If the membership is made up of wealthy people, set no standard.

Next you must take into consideration the practice of stewardship in each church. Take the total budget of the church under consideration. This, of course, includes both the local and benevolent budgets and all other gifts of the church. Multiply this by three. Then add the two items—the one reached by the number of members and the amount which is three times the annual budget. Divide the total reached by two.

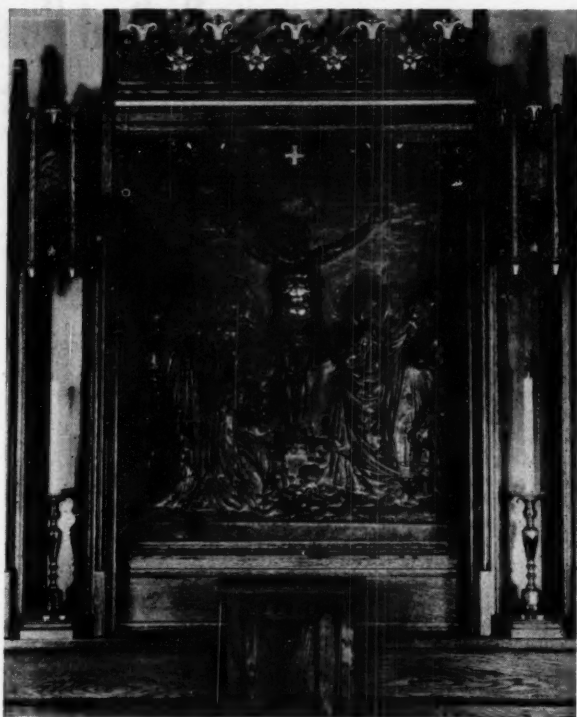
To make the above a little clearer, let us suppose we have a church with 1,000 members, most of whom are business and professional men, and some of whom have wealth. We would multiply that 1,000 members by \$100 which

would give us \$100,000.

Assuming that this same church has an annual budget for current expenses and benevolences of \$25,000 per year, we would multiply this by three giving \$75,000. Adding the two together would give us a total of \$175,000, and dividing by two leaves \$87,500, which is likely to be somewhere near what the congregation could raise.

Where can one turn to get practical help on church building?

First, to magazines such as *Church Management*. Secondly, to books on the general subject. A list appears in an advertisement in this issue. Third, the probability is that the home missions board of your own denomination has a department on church architecture. Fourth, to the Interdenominational Bureau of Architecture, 296 Fourth Avenue, New York City. Rev. Elbert M. Conover is the executive in charge. A list of good books on this subject will



Illustration, Courtesy Whittemore Associates, Inc.

BRONZE REREDOS

Back of the hand carved wooden frame is a reredos in heavy bronze relief. This has recently been installed in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Fall River, Massachusetts. G. Raymond Shaffer is the rector.

be found on Page 92.

Is it necessary to employ an architect who has specialized in church building?

As is true in every other field, experience counts. Other things being equal you would be wise to get an architect who has had experience in church building. But if such an architect is not available you can get good designing and leadership from a good architect who is willing to study the literature on the subject and who appreciates what makes a modern church building. Avoid the fellow who insists that a church is just another building or who is unwilling to appreciate the tendencies in education and worship.

CHRISTMAS IDEA

There will be plenty of Christmas ideas for the minister, the choir, the church school, in the November-Christmas issue of *Church Management*.

DON'T MISS IT

Planning the Church Kitchen

by Alfred A. Frantz

The kitchen plays a major role in helping strengthen the bonds of fellowship in the church, and its planning therefore deserves the most careful consideration. Specific factors which will make it both more useful to the church and more convenient for the ladies using it are discussed here.

THE kitchen has been making its vital contribution to Christian fellowship in churches ever since the days of the loaves-and-fishes miracle, but only in recent years have churchmen realized that its planning and outfitting deserve as much attention as the purchase of a fine organ or the selection of comfortable pews.

Like the home kitchen, the church kitchen should be designed as a comfortable, pleasant work place where activities can be carried on with a minimum of confusion and fatigue. The day is past when the kitchen can be shunted into any part of the church building for which no other use can be found. The time of inadequate, inefficient equipment is also going, for today's ladies of the congregation see no virtue or value in the drudgery of "helping out" in the old-fashioned church kitchen.

What are the features of the good church kitchen? Above all, it should be convenient, properly lighted and well ventilated. It should have walls and floors which are easily cleaned and kept clean. It should be done in colors which will lift the spirits of the people who work in it. It should have good tools and equipment and adequate stor-

age space.

Planning the church kitchen is best done as a cooperative enterprise between representatives of the church and outside experts. Only in rare instances can the job safely be left to members of the congregation alone. First of the experts is of course the architect. Local hotel and restaurant men often can give valuable advice. In many states, home economists at the state agricultural college can be called upon for help. Equipment manufacturers usually have staff home economists, and are glad to make their services available to church groups. This magazine, too, consults willingly on problems of kitchen design.

The kitchen's size depends, of course, on the size of groups to be served from it. It should be allotted an area a third to a half the size of the dining room, according to home economists. However, if no baking is to be done, and no food stored from one occasion to another, this space can safely be reduced.

Durable and easily cleaned materials are required for the floors and walls of the church kitchen. One of the most satisfactory of all is clay tile, for it not only meets these requirements

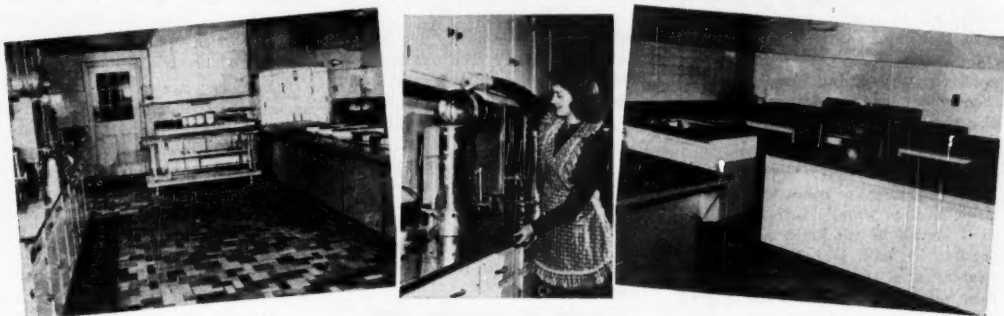
but is also water-proof, sanitary and colorfast. Clay tile has a permanent finish which never needs varnishing, painting or other types of redecorating. Its use therefore eliminates the expensive refinishing needed periodically by other materials.

Spilled grease or liquids can be easily removed from clay tile floors, and no stain will result. Such floors are very durable and will stand up under years of hard usage.

A wise plan is to use a high wainscot of clay tile around the entire kitchen. This practice will keep walls from being damaged by grease, steam and splattered liquids and foods. Designs in the tile should be simple and the colors chosen carefully, for it will last the entire life of the kitchen and not be changed.

The arrangement of the church kitchen should be planned with the various activities carried on there in mind. These activities fall into seven classifications: receiving of supplies; storing of supplies; preparing of foods; cooking; serving; washing of dishes and pots; and storing of glassware, china and silver.

For receiving supplies, a separate entrance which opens direct to the outdoors is best. If this can not be had, the entrance for supplies should be located as near as possible to an outside entrance, and away from traffic lanes to other parts of the church. Space for garbage receptacles should be planned near this entrance.



Illustrations, Courtesy Tile Council of America

THE MODERN CHURCH KITCHEN

Good equipment in the kitchen of the Broadway Baptist Church, Paterson, New Jersey, include electric coffee makers, stainless steel counter, wooden counter for meat cutting, extra sink for washing of glass and silveware, a rear door for receiving supplies and clay tile floor and wainscots. There is also a loud speaker so that the women in the kitchen can follow the progress of the meeting in the dining room.

Food storage space should be near both the receiving entrance and the preparation space. The amount and the types of storage needed depend on the quantity of food to be held over from one occasion to another. If only condiments and spices are carried from meal to meal, food storage requirements can be kept to a minimum. On the other hand, if such staples as potatoes and onions are usually held over, special cool space is needed for them. A large refrigerator is an essential, and a separate refrigerated space for ice cream is a good investment.

Preparation of Food

Food preparation activities include cleaning and washing of vegetables, meat cutting and pastry mixing. The equipment can be elaborate or simple, but in any case, working heights should be those which are most convenient for the women using the kitchen. A special sink for cleaning vegetables is very handy, and a meat block or wood-surfaced counter is required for cutting and trimming meats.

Food preparation areas are best located between the cooking area and the refrigerator and other storage spaces. Careful planning here for compactness will greatly reduce the number of steps needed in meal preparation.

The type of range and fuel to be used for cooking depend often on local conditions. The number of people usually to be served and the amount of baking to be done are also governing factors.

The food serving area is a vital one, for it is there that time is often lost so that meals come to the table barely lukewarm, and unpalatable. This area should be near both to the cooking space and to an exit to the dining room which does not cross other traffic lanes. If a separate entrance can be installed for waitresses returning to the kitchen, traffic will be greatly speeded up.

In the small church kitchen, tables and counters may provide adequate space for food serving. In a large kitchen where many meals are prepared at a time, steam tables are a very wise investment.

Clean-up Operation

The cleaning-up operation after a large meal is usually tedious at best, so it should be simplified as much as possible by good planning. The dish washing area should be separate from food preparation and service spaces, and handy to storage space for tableware and silver. A clay tile wainscot in this section will greatly reduce wear and tear, for any water, grease or food splattered on the tile can be removed with a damp cloth.

In the small kitchen, all dish wash-

ing may be by hand, and special attention should be given to adjusting the sink to the proper height for workers. A deep sink is a bad choice if the persons working at it have to bend continually to reach the dishes in it.

In large church kitchens, an automatic dish washer may be installed. In that case, some permanent member of the staff should be trained in its functioning and care. In any case, a separate sink will be needed for cleaning pots and pans, and if possible, another separate sink should be installed for washing glasses and silver. Make sure there is provision for rinsing all tableware with scalding water.

Adequate storage space for china and glassware is as necessary in the church as in the home kitchen. If possible, cupboards should not be more than six feet from the floor, as that is the maximum height which most women can reach. A location near both the dish washing area and the door to the dining room is best for this storage space.

Specially built cupboards in which glasses and fruit dishes can be stored on trays greatly simplify serving. Labels on cupboard doors indicating what dishes go into them are also a great saver of time and confusion.

Small features which contribute to the comfort of the kitchen's users should be given consideration in the plan. Storage space for coats and hats should be handy. If the kitchen is large and many work in it at the same time, a drinking fountain is a great convenience. Finally, a loud speaker hooked up with the dining room will bring speeches and music into the kitchen and will mean that the ladies working there will not feel neglected or that they are missing so much of what is going on.

American Policies in Asia

(From page 10)

1948, in which over ninety per cent of all eligibles voted. The outcome was a solidly anti-Communist government headed by Dr. Rhee, a realistic statesman who had maneuvered for Korean independence for the past thirty years. This government has now ruled the southern half of the country for a full year, since August 15, fortified with American aid and military supplies. The United Nations still has the problem of getting Russia to relinquish her hold on the north.

Colonial and Dependent Areas

Prior to and during the war, American policy toward colonial and dependent areas in Asia was clear. We took a strong stand for gradual evolution toward independence. In our administration of the Philippines we led the

way in the Tydings-McDuffie Act of March, 1934, promising an independence that was delivered on schedule, July 4, 1946.

As early as May, 1941, Secretary Hull was badgering the English for a specific promise of post-war independence for India. Article 3 of the Atlantic Charter, declaring "the right of all people to choose the form of government under which they will live," was intended by President Roosevelt to apply to Asia as well as to Europe, but Prime Minister Churchill hastened to assure the House of Commons that in his thinking India and Burma were excluded. Continued American pressure, however, had its effect both in London and in India and Burma, with the result that the present independent governments of India, Burma, Pakistan, and Ceylon all evolved.

Toward Indo-China our policy was clarified before we got into the war, by the Vichy government's connivance in surrendering Indo-China to the Japanese. President Roosevelt wrote to Hull in January, 1941: "...the case of Indo-China is perfectly clear. France has milked it for one hundred years. The people of Indo-China are entitled to something better than that." Roosevelt joined with Chiang Kai-shek and Stalin in urging Indo-Chinese independence, over the combined opposition of the French, English, and Dutch. Yet when the war ended, the United States stood aside while English troops entered the country and enlisted the services of Japanese soldiers in putting down the Viet Nam Republic forces, until the French were strong enough to take over. Since the restoration of French authority, we have been officially discreetly silent while the battle for independence goes on, with Vietnamese nationalists holding most of the territory outside the big cities. We still have taken no definite stand on the French restoration of the Bao Dai to his ancestral throne.

Indonesian nationalists, organized as early as 1908, used the United States Constitution and Declaration of Independence as models. However, their cause was prejudiced to some extent by their "cooperation" with the Japanese during the war. It was hurt more decisively by the fact that Holland needs the wealth she can drain from Indonesia to hasten the rehabilitation the United States is sponsoring through the Marshall Plan. The most notable American intervention in the independence movement was an offer of "good offices" in July, 1947—an offer accepted by the Dutch, but rejected by the Indonesians on the ground that American world-wide interests

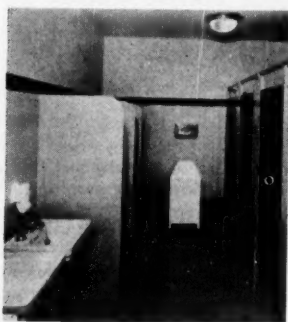


Illustration courtesy Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.

TOILET FACILITIES

Clean, commodious toilet facilities are essential in the modern church. The recent installation shown above is a good example.

might prejudice us to favor Dutch claims.

Effects of Our Policies

As a result of shifting American policy in Asia, we have committed ourselves to the rapid restoration of Japanese economic and political superiority. The Chinese, Philippines, and Australian governments have taken the lead in protesting this policy, though it has also been vigorously attacked by individual Koreans, Indians, and spokesmen for various countries throughout Southeast Asia. China is rocking toward economic and political ruin, with American public and official opinion divided on whether to let the process continue or to attempt to check the Communist advances.

The Atlantic Charter pledge to insure to all peoples "the right to choose the form of government under which they will live" has been fulfilled for the British colonial areas in India and Burma, for the Philippines, and for the southern half of Korea. It is still far from fulfillment in Indo-China and Indonesia. While the United States policy continues to be, "win the peace first in Europe," Russia is seizing the opportunity for rapid expansion of Communism in every Asian nation except where MacArthur blocks them in Japan and the Korean nationalists, led by Dr. Rhee, have turned them back in south Korea.

The only certainty is that Asia is in a ferment of rapid change. It is not a stable situation that the United States can afford to leave on the shelf until a more favorable opportunity might arrive for deciding what our intentions toward that half of the world may be.



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Good Church House Cleaning

by A. D. Kendelhardt*

A congregation builds a new building but once in a generation. But the house cleaning task is perennial. The author of this article has had a wide experience in both the cleaning and decorating of churches and other buildings. He offers some good advice.

"CLEANLINESS is next to Godliness," while an old adage, glibly accepted by most people, has a particularly potent bearing on churches, for the church is the place where people go to increase their spirituality. If the church is gloomy because of dirty walls and drab furnishings the person sensitive to these conditions may be repelled and go elsewhere.

It might prove a startling revelation if a census could be made of the subconscious reasons for the appalling lack of interest in church attendance among so many of our Protestant people throughout the land. If psychiatrists, for instance, were to bring out deep seated reasons for this lack of interest perhaps we would hear such stories as these: "When I was a little girl my mother took me to church and I had to sit an hour each week in a dark dirty room listening to people sing and a man talk," "Our church pew was next to a dingy window and under the window were long black streaks that looked like a lot of snakes."

On the other hand many an ardent church member could probably trace his first interest in church to the impression received in childhood of jewel-like windows and flowers on an immaculate altar. Even without resorting to childhood it might be well to reflect awhile on the drawing or repelling atmosphere of present-day churches for adults or children. People who come from attractive homes where good housekeeping is a wifely virtue, cannot concentrate on sermons when they are wishing they could tackle the pew ahead with some soap and water or wondering what the walls looked like before they got so dirty. If any preacher is puzzling why his church attendance is poor we'd suggest he take a good look around his edifice before deciding that his sermons are to blame.

As far as the small churches are

concerned maybe all they need is a few repairs and a coat of paint. Maybe a hundred dollars will cover all necessary expenditure. When it comes to the large richly ornamented churches, however, redecorating becomes a major problem. Often the costs of complete redecoration would be prohibitive. Then it is time to consider renovating which may cost less than half, sometimes only a third of the original price paid. Not many ministers or church directors have had the opportunity to acquaint themselves with new renovating techniques. They may wonder whether their own janitorial staff with volunteer helpers or some local painter can do the job at a smaller cost than by engaging a concern with trained specialists in renovating. Or if they consider calling in experts they wonder just what the job would cost and involve. It is with the hope of answering some of these questions that may arise that this article has been written.

Let us consider first what things can safely be done by the local staff or volunteer church members. Perhaps the best rule to follow is this: do only

the things you know by experience that you can do successfully and that you can reach with your own equipment. In other words, don't experiment in your church with untried methods and don't attempt anything that would be dangerous—such as having men working on a roof or on scaffolding unless they are accustomed to doing that.

Entrust Important Things to One Who Knows

Also, don't attempt things out of your line—such as trying to plan a color scheme or arranging lighting effects unless it is your specialty. One church, for instance, purchased fluorescent lights only to find that the white glow changed the color effects, created shadows and cast a glare in the minister's face. The advice of a specialist in lighting would have spared them this mistake and the unwise expenditure.

Another church wishing brighter lights for reading new hymnals, bought larger bulbs. If they had simply lowered the chandeliers a few inches, they could have saved the cost of the new bulbs plus the additional monthly electricity costs. Inexperienced ministers or laymen may not realize that lighting fixtures should be kept in harmony with the church architecture. Even if they do realize that fact, few people are qualified to judge the needed candle power or to tell how high or low the fixture should be placed for correct

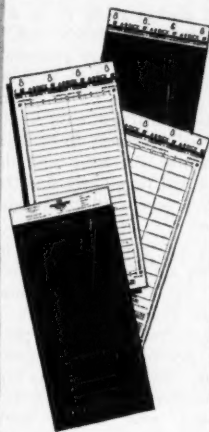


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*Mr. Kendelhardt is vice-president of the Thales Company, Inc., New York City, specialists in reconditioning or redecorating interior surfaces. Mr. Kendelhardt supervised renovating the Grand Central Station in New York City, and many banks, churches and synagogues.

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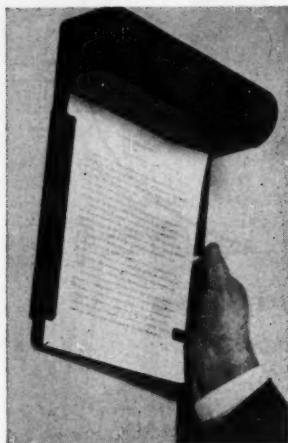
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lighting. Often the time taken by willing but inexperienced church workers could be used to better advantage to earn money in their own line of work. This income could then pay for the services of a specialist to meet their church needs in decorating and repairing.

That same rule applies also to plumbing, architectural changes and renovating. Often a whole church architectural scheme is ruined by rearranging the pews or building additional rooms. Only a trained architect is qualified to plan such changes if you want a well-balanced architectural scheme in your church edifice.

When it comes to cleaning a church, again great care and common sense must be used or great harm can be done. For instance, never try to clean an acoustic ceiling with a liquid cleaner as the dirt will be carried up into the pores by capillary attraction, with the result that all hopes of thorough cleaning are gone forever, and you'll have to tolerate a stained ceiling as long as it lasts. Only a specialist is qualified to clean an acoustic ceiling. So, too, the untrained must never try to clean an oil painting, for wrong treatment can change the color of the pigment, dry it out or flake it off. Only a well qualified renovator or restorer should ever be permitted to clean valuable paintings.

Watch the Exterior

Before you renovate the interior of your church, whether you do it yourself or call in an expert craftsman to take care of it, be sure that the outside of your church is in good condition. This advice should not be ignored. Remember that many times expensive interior decorations are ruined because of the condition of the exterior of the church. A leak due to lack of caulking around a window may cause tremendous damage. Sometimes thousands of dollars worth of beauty is destroyed for lack of a few cents worth of putty or a missing shingle.

Supposing, after having repaired your roof and drain pipes and any possible leak, you have decided that the original interior of your church is too elaborate, too expensive, too intricate or too difficult to risk being renovated by amateurs, and you've decided to call in a renovator to renew the beauty of your church, then how do you go about finding a good contractor to do the job?

An Honest Contract

Consider first that all contractors and their helpers are human beings; you cannot expect absolute perfection 100 per cent of the time. Entering into a contract with a renovator or any other

human being is something like entering into a marriage contract. There is no way of guaranteeing that your new spouse is always going to be a gem of perfection; no one can be that. But you do expect to marry someone who comes to you in good faith to fulfill as efficiently as possible his or her marital duties. And if you have used reasonably good judgment in selecting a person of fine character and intelligence, you will very likely find the relationship a source of great satisfaction to you.

So with any contractor it is necessary to seek a man of integrity and experience. Get a list of his clients and investigate the work he has done, either by correspondence or personal calls. If possible look over some job he is doing now. Observe the type of men he employs. Do they work efficiently and with respect for the church's sacred objects? Do they work well together? Is there a foreman on the job at all times for consultation with the church leader as well as with his men? Are you sure the contractor carried adequate liability insurance in case of accident that might cause damage to your church or injury to a workman or on-looker? If these inquiries meet your approval and you have confidence in the contractor himself so that you can like and trust each other, then you are ready to talk over terms of a contract. And remember, a contract is to protect you and the contractor; it is a working arrangement to guide both of you.

In planning this contract remember that the renovator is the man who knows; you are seeking his help. Therefore, don't come to him with a list of specifications of what you want done. Rather ask him what he thinks needs to be done. Don't tell him what kind of cleaning fluid to use and what kind of paint you want used. If he is at all progressive he probably knows about the materials best suited for your purposes. Ask his advice regarding the time it will take rather than insisting on your time. He knows how many good men are available at a certain season and how long it will take that many men to do your job right. If you insist on a rush job then he must put on outside help of whose qualifications he isn't sure, and who may be only second rate men; he has no other choice if you insist on a rush job.

In planning the financial arrangements, it is well to know that the big item in renovating costs is labor. The material expenditures are usually small in comparison; so don't try to save a little money by ordering inferior mate-

rials. It is poor economy to save \$100 in materials and lose \$2,000 in labor by having to do the work over again when something gives way in a shorter period than expected. If every church had a regular item in its budget for maintenance expenses then such expenses wouldn't be problems when they do come up. Actually wear and tear on a building is a continuous thing and the funds should be put aside regularly for meeting the needs so that the church can always be kept at the peak of efficiency and beauty.

The contract should state that any so called "extras" will not exceed a set amount or that there will be no extras. This clause protects both contractor and client. For example, one church decided their wood ceiling was not in need of cleaning or painting as it still looked pretty good in comparison to the dingy church walls. But after the church was cleaned the rafters looked rather shabby, so they agreed to let the contractor freshen them up. But renovating church ceilings takes time—and this was not in the contract so here was an "extra" that had to be added. Sometimes after the main sanctuary is renovated the church officials decide the hallways or study should also be cleaned, but these were not arranged for in advance, so they would be considered extras.

Another financial arrangement that should not be overlooked is the agreement on terms for payment. A clear understanding of amounts and times of payments will avoid any possible disagreement later.

The contract should also include a working arrangement regarding the use of the church. Are church services to be continued during the renovating time? If so, must the scaffolding be removed for Sunday services or is it sufficient to just have the scaffolding built so as not to interfere with the services? Is the church to be available for funerals, weddings or other weekday services? If so, arrangements for work stoppage must be considered in drawing up the contract, remembering that if the men have to be called off the job for a few hours every now and then, their salaries have to be paid by the contractor just the same as if they were working. All of these conditions should be considered in advance to avoid difficulty later. It is also wise to have an arbitration clause for settlement of any disputes that might arise. The contract should also provide for cleaning up afterward so that the men don't leave a mess for the church people to cart away.

Some contractors try to have work-
(Turn to page 64)

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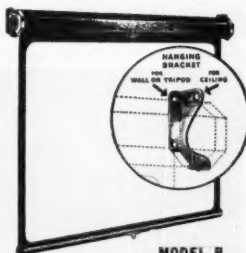
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Marble Belongs to the Church

by Romer Shawhan, R. A.

The author of this article who is the managing director of the Marble Institute of America believes that marble is a "natural" in the church. Most of us will agree with him and will read this story on the origin and varieties of marble with keen interest.

FROM the earliest days of the human race, marble has been used by man, wherever he wanted beauty combined with utility. Going back through the ages, we can but marvel at the power of the church to call forth the best of man's achievements. The treasures of the majestic cathedrals, as the pagan temples that preceded them, are all dedicated to the same common cause. It is only natural, therefore, in this eternal quest for beauty, there should be a constant demand for marble—for the unchallenged honesty of natural stone.

No other material is better able to inspire the proper religious atmosphere, to suggest dignity, even sublimity, than this century stone of time, and, as a result, in no field is there more concentrated interest or unusual usage of marble than in the world's churches. For the adornment of the church, there is nothing false, nothing transient about marble. Its beauty is never garish, nor is its translucent surface ever harsh or bizarre, and in addition what lovely things that skill can do to make marble even more beautiful than it is!

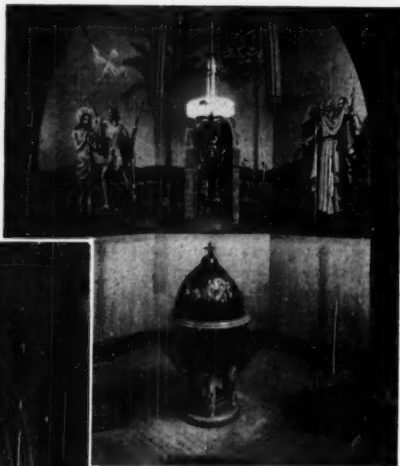
The forces at work millions of years ago, that formed the Malaki blocks of Israel, the Parian marbles preferred

by Phidias and the Carrara blocks chosen by Michaelangelo, were also at work, giving to the material colors of all shades and hues, some being united and even, some broken, mixed and interrupted; all to the end of supplying what the architect, through the centuries, has come to recognize as the most permanent of all color decorations.

In his appreciation and use of the infinite varieties and veinings in marble at his disposal, the architect is often curious about nature's work as a colorist and how she brought about such beautiful colorings and veinings in the material. This curiosity is quite understandable, for while the reasons for many of the colors are not hard to find, it would require very elaborate methods

a crystalline rock by the process of metamorphism, thus giving the material a compact structure, enabling it to take a high polish. This also accounts for the great strength and durability of marble.

All marbles however, even the purest, contain in a greater or lesser degree, some accessory organic or mineral matter which affects the whiteness, but at the same time gives them the colors that constitute their beauty. Black and grayish marbles, for instance, may owe their shades to the presence of carbon, or possibly to the fact of their having been a calcareous silt or clay containing organic matter, derived chiefly



Marble adds dignity and beauty in these churches

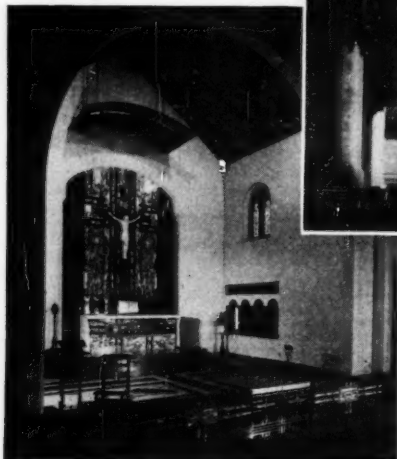
to determine the precise causes of some of the more delicate effects.

Where pure white marble is concerned, it might best be described as composed entirely of carbonate of lime, which, subsequent to its deposition has been rendered entirely crystalline, the sedimentary limestone having been changed into

from decayed vegetation or animal remains.

Other colors in marble are due chiefly to the presence of iron in various states of combination. Green marbles (with the exception of serpentines) owe their color mainly to iron, combined with silica in the mineral galuconite. The yellowish, brown or cream colored marbles owe their tones to limonite or hydrated ferric oxide in varying amounts, while the reddish, pinkish and reddish-brown marbles owe theirs to the minute particules of a compound with manganese oxide or hematite, or both of these.

It is obvious that earth movements may shatter rock, producing fissures. In the early stages of this process the fissures are inconspicuous, but as mineral matter penetrates the



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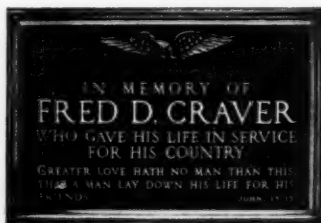
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UPPER ROOM IN MANY LANGUAGES

Dr. J. Manning Potts, center, discusses features of The International Number of The Upper Room with Jose Gomes De Campos, dean of Institute Porto Alegre, Brazil, who holds a copy of the Portuguese edition, NO CENAGULO; Maria Gonzales Ramos, a social worker of Monterrey, Mexico, who has EL APOSENTO ALTO in her hands; Wei-Thoo Ling of the Huchow Institutional Church, China, with her copy of THE UPPER ROOM printed in Chinese; and A. S. Muradian with a copy of LOOYS, which is THE UPPER ROOM in Armenian.

cracks they gradually get picked out by color, a process which forms a veined marble. When traversed by a great number of fissures, running in different directions, and these are filled with mineral matter of various colors, the rock is shown as a variegated marble. And if the rock is completely broken up into angular fragments, which are subsequently cemented together by infiltration or pressure, a variety is produced which is distinguished as a brecciated marble.

There are many agencies at work which help to form the many varieties of marble, but it is hoped that the above will, to some extent, explain what produces this vast variety of colorful marbles which are at the disposal of the architect. Indeed, today, marbles being quarried abroad and imported to the United States, as well as those being quarried in this country, create a palette that permits color in permanent building construction surfaces, as well as decorative and ecclesiastical effects that can satisfy the imagination of any architectural designer.

Classifying Marbles

With this in mind, one appreciates more fully the efforts of the marble industry in its endeavor to segregate marbles (for the better understanding by both the architect and marble industry) into groups known as "A," "B," "C" and "D" marbles. The first two groups are understood to be SOUND marbles; "C" marbles are understood and sold as SEMI-SOUND marbles and those in the "D" bracket are UNSOUND or

fragile marbles, all depending, more or less upon the action of Mother Earth in preserving them intact or, through her whimsy, rendering them fragile.

The groupings just mentioned, therefore, must not be considered as a reflection in any way on any particular marble but merely a classification of their natural qualities, for one must bear in mind that were it not for these defects, it would have been impossible in many cases, for nature to spread its wonderful coloring matter into the innermost depths of the marble, and to give the architect a permanent decorative material which, in recent years, he has used all too infrequently.

There is a general reason for this. There are so many marbles in the world, so many possibilities of combination and contrast, such varied climatic and other influences that effect both color and structural values, and so many degrees of hardness and structural qualities among materials properly designated as marble, that it is easy to condone much of the confusion, with respect to marbles, that prevails among architects.

It must be recognized, that the architect who is making a reputation for himself in his profession today was a rather young man in 1929. How much he knew about the world's commercially available marbles at that time, is a question, but from that time on, during the depression years, he was forced to use substitute materials, as generally he was not in a position to specify marble for his designs. To

these depression years, when the use of marble was so drastically curtailed, five more years can be added, due to the war, and another two years for post-war reconversion; THEN one realizes what little chance these architects have had "to know their marbles."

However, the architect, decorator and other specifying authorities, are now being made cognizant of the fact that marble, both domestic and foreign, is a material that is available for use in the tremendous backlog of projects which make up the vast construction programs now beginning to get under way, principally for churches, hospitals, schools and institutions, to say nothing of enormous construction programs representing public, commercial and industrial undertakings, mausoleums and memorials, and other construction wherein marble plays its part.

The marble importers at this writing have an assortment of over 100 marbles, both monotone and decorative, and substantial shipments are now arriving regularly in this country of fine blocks of such well known marbles as: Belgian Black, Rouge Royal, Roman Travertine, Arabescato, Rose Aurora, Rosato, Cassino Rose, Red Levanto, Black and Gold, Yellow Sienna, Italian Whites, Italian Grand Antique, Eotticino, Alps Greens, Red Verona, Bardiglio, English Vein, Bronzetto, Loreda Chiaro and many others.

American Marbles

In this country, quarriers in many of the states are currently producing approximately 120 different marbles from black to white through practically every shade of the spectrum. Some are coarsely crystalline and some of these are finely crystalline; the coarsely crystalline marbles are not as attractive as some others for polished interior work. On the other hand, many of them are unsurpassed for the exterior facing of monumental buildings, Federal buildings and memorials. To a great extent, the marbles of the United States, and of the entire world for that matter, supplement each other so as to make available any sort of complete scheme that the architect may have in mind. The differences in crystallization give him a wide choice in the matter of texture; differences in coloring and distribution of coloring make it possible for him to have practically any color scheme that the imagination of man can conceive.

The 120 different marbles being quarried domestically come from widely separated localities. Alabama, for example, has a number of different marbles. At the present time, however, the only variety of marble being produced is a fine grained white marble, generally containing more or less vein-

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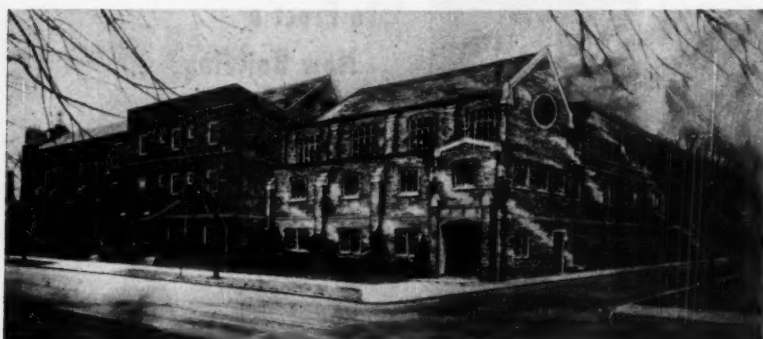
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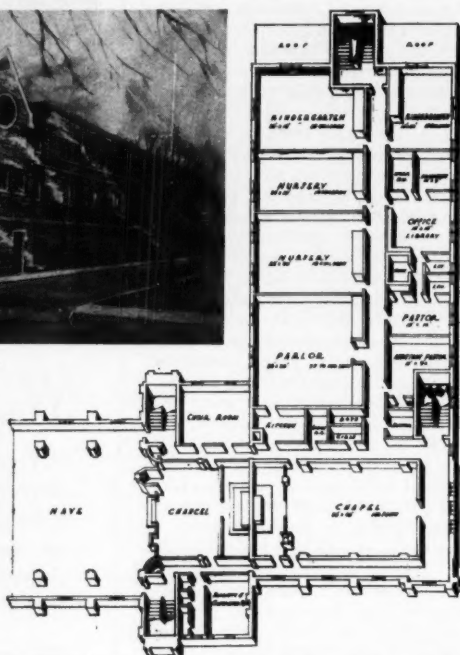
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SPACE FOR FUTURE GROWTH

The architects for the new educational rooms planned for Bethany English Lutheran Church, Cleveland, very effectively looked forward to the time when the church would need a larger nave. You will notice from the photograph and ground floor plan that the present chancel backs against the altar for the new chapel. In case of need for a larger nave the chapel will become the chancel of the church, the nave extending through the present chancel. J. H. L. Trout is the pastor of the church; architects, Spieth & Mundy, Cleveland.



ing and clouding and occasionally yielding blocks of moderate size, which are practically of statuary quality. Its chief attractiveness is due to its life and warmth of coloring. This marble is, for the most part, a cream-white, rather than a bluish-white, the more common characteristic of Italian white marble, although one quarrier does produce a white marble with a very light bluish tinge. Alabama marble is used extensively for memorials, church work and for interior marble work generally where a light marble with conservative markings is desired. Some of the better known varieties of Alabama marble are: Veined Cream, Cream "A," Clouded "A," Marble Clouded, Marble Cream and Madre Vein.

Recently, new quarries have been opened near Dragoon, Arizona, which are producing some highly decorative marbles known as Naretena and Breche Seguaro. In Batesville, Arkansas, there are several decorative marbles being produced known as Ozark Famous, Ozark Fleuri, Ozark Rouge and St. Clair. Colorado is currently producing a very attractive travertine which varies from a cream color to pink and rose, and bears the trade name of Colorado.

Georgia marbles are "sparkling" crystalline, and as a rule have a white or light gray background, but some,

such as Mezzotint and Creole, have such an amount of deep black clouding that it becomes its distinguishing characteristic. Georgia also produces Etowah Pink, a large grained marble ranging from old rose to deep pink, with greenish black and greenish-gray veinings. Such marbles are used for structural, utility and decorative purposes and are produced in large quantities.

Maryland produces a Verde Antique serpentine that ranks high as a beautiful green marble. It is a mottled light and dark grass green, with interlocking veins of lighter green.

Minnesota quarries large quantities of Mankato Buff, Gray, Cream and Pink, as well as Kasota veined and fleuri, used extensively for exterior and interior wall surfaces.

Missouri has quite an assortment of structural, utility and decorative marbles. Its principal production centers are near Carthage, where Ozark Gray Veined marble is produced, and at Phoenix, in Greene County, where Napoleon Gray is located, both of these marbles being very similar. At Marlo, a very interesting range of monotone and decorative marbles is being produced under the trade names of Adorado, Eldorado, Graydorado, Hondorado, Indorado and Sheldorado.

In Tennessee, a splendid assortment of marbles of excellent quality are pro-

duced. Their ground tone varies from light warm gray and various shades of pink and brownish pink to dark chocolate. All grades and varieties of Tennessee marble have more or less of the characteristic pinkish hue which distinguishes them. Sometimes this is barely perceptible, while at other times it is the outstanding characteristic of the marble itself. Tennessee also produces a black marble, a reddish green and a buff as well. In size of crystals, Tennessee occupies a medium position, the crystallization never coarse enough to disqualify it for interior work. Marble from this state, and from Vermont as well, is interesting too due to the fact that the traces of marine animals, whose remains were the raw material of which it was made, have not, in all cases, been wholly destroyed, but may be recognized very easily by a close examination of the marble.

There are five large quarrying firms operating in Tennessee today and their monthly production assumes sizeable proportions. Some of the varieties of Tennessee marble now being produced are: Bond Pink, Bond Dark Cedar, Antique Rose, Edward Pink, Craig Pink, Ellis Lavernelle, Acme Pink, Lawson Gray, Champion Pink, d'Or Fossile, Phantasia Vert, Ross Pink, Rochelle and Imperial Black.

The State of Vermont produces a
(Turn to page 71)



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If you will answer the questions on the form attached and send to us, we will analyze your particular problem and make a recommendation without cost or obligation to you. Send it in at once. Whether you employ our services or not, you will receive valuable information from our analysis.

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3. Number of Member Families..... Friends.....
4. Amount of Budget (1948)..... (1949).....
5. Number of Contributors to Budget.....
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7. Amount Needed.....
8. Purpose of Fund.....
9. How Much Already in Hand.....
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Our Private Prayer Chapel

Many Spiritual Activities Radiate from This Little Chapel

*by Roy C. Hefenstein**

THE great majority of Protestant churches have failed to provide an opportunity for people privately to withdraw from the rush and hurry, the clash and clatter of modern life into a place for private prayer where the world can be shut out and a sense of being alone with God made possible. Every life has its crucial moments, its crises, and its Gethsemanes,—times when such a place for prayer would be of incalculable help.

The First Congregational Church of Mason City, Iowa, of which church I have been pastor during the past eleven years, has recently made provision for a private prayer chapel in connection with its extensive remodeling program which also included the building of a beautiful chancel, a youth chapel and classrooms, new parish house features, etc. But in the \$75,000 program of improvements, the private prayer chapel seems to many the most important item of the whole series. It is *The Sanctum Sanctorum* of our church—a trysting place with God, where down through the years men and women and boys and girls, alone with God in prayer, may experience great spiritual victories of the soul. And this spot, made sacred by dedication and by association, will be most desirable for

private baptisms, private weddings, and private communion—as experience has already proved. The chapel is primarily, however, to serve the needs of those who desire a quiet and impressive place for undisturbed thought, deep meditation, and private prayer—a place at the heart of the city easily accessible from a busy street. The numerous expressions of appreciation (since dedication a year ago from members of our own church, from members of sister churches, and from people in neighboring towns who use the chapel) conclusively emphasize the importance of Protestant churches providing private prayer chapels for the people of the community.

Our private prayer chapel is twenty-one feet long, eight feet wide and ten feet high. The color scheme of decorations, the rich blending of colors in three exquisitely beautiful art windows,—patterned after the noted windows in Saint Margaret's Chapel in Paris—the proportions, the lighting effects, the arched ceiling with heavy exposed beams symbolizing security, and the finishing throughout creates an atmosphere of tranquility, restfulness and peace, conducive to deep meditation, gratitude and prayer.

On the two side-walls are six artistic walnut memorial plaques of six

*Minister, First Congregational Church, Mason City, Iowa.

young men of the church and church school who gave their lives in World War II.

The three art glass windows referred to are of unusual richness in quality, color and design, impressively gracing the outside wall of the chapel. The beautiful altar is adorned with a silk velour covering, solid brass electrically lighted candles, and a large brass cross. Other items making the chapel distinctive are the eight miniature solid oak pews (thirty-two inches in length and usual height, artistic solid oak altar rail with opening to center aisle in front of altar, a rich mulberry colored carpet over the floor of the sanctum and one kneeling step in front of railing; the altar step in front of the altar also being heavily padded with air-foam cushion; the floor in main body of the chapel in front of altar step is covered with artistically laid cork tiling. A cathedral design, solid oak door leads from the center entrance of the church into the chapel. Two flame candle bulbs are lighted at all times on the altar facing the entrance, the door always being left open when chapel is not occupied; and when door is closed upon entering, a concealed light is automatically flashed upon the beautiful oil painting of "Hoffman's Christ" kneeling in the Garden of Gethsemane—the painting having been produced specifically for our private prayer chapel by the celebrated artist, John Krogmann. When anyone enters the chapel, closing and bolting the door for strict privacy, there is also an electric fixture outside above the entrance door which indicates the word "OCCUPIED."

On a recent visit to deliver his sermon to the largest audience ever assembled in our church (more than 1000 people being present), Strickland Gillilan, the noted lecturer and author, declared our new chapel to be "the most worshipful bit of man's creation" he had ever seen. One distinguished visitor spoke of this chapel as being "a miniature cathedral."

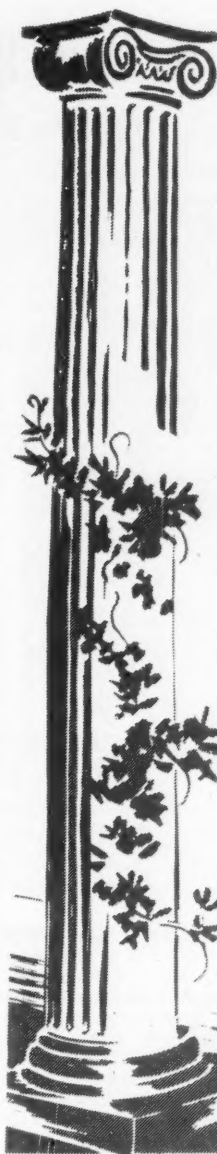
A beautiful art steel lectern and baptismal font, designed for the smallness of the room, have been placed in the chapel since the dedication.

At the left of the entrance is an artistically designed bronze tablet with the following inscription:

PRIVATE PRAYER CHAPEL
Open to Public

Close door when entering, that none may disturb.

"I like to go into a place
When only God is there,
And fall upon my knees to Him,
And bow my head in prayer.
And when I must go forth again



MAAS

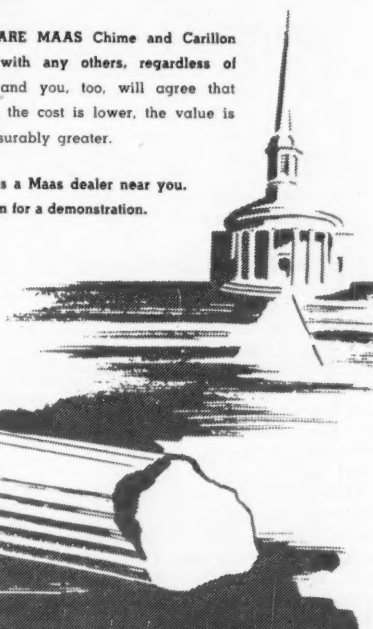
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Where men, indifferent, plod,
I am the better for the time
That I have spent with God."
A Witness.

At the time I first presented the idea and plan of the private prayer chapel to the Board of Trustees in connection with a general remodeling project of the sanctuary which involved the creating of a beautiful divided chancel, no one thought of the possibility of World War II in which six of the young men of our church made the supreme sacrifice. But when the chapel was completed a year ago last spring, the appropriateness of placing six artistic walnut memorial plaques on the side walls of the chapel, in honor of the young men from our church who gave their lives in service to their country, was apparent to all. Thus these impressive plaques, three on each side-wall, challenge all who enter to give their lives in the service of peace to God and country.

Also on the north wall of the chapel is a beautiful large bronze memorial tablet in memory of a noble member whose benefaction made possible this place for private prayer. Another large bronze tablet is placed at the right of the outside entrance calling attention to the "Private Prayer Chapel for Public Use" and inviting all so inclined to "Enter to Pray" and to "Depart to Serve."

As previously stated, the words of appreciation, expressed by people of this church and people of other churches who have made use of the chapel and thus experienced the inspiration of praying in a room specifically designed, planned, erected and dedicated to afford opportunity of "quiet aloneness with God," have proved the incalculable value of this new feature of our church plant.

Members of the church and non-members are invited to join "A Prayer League," pledging themselves to enter the chapel at least once each week, health and opportunity permitting, to meditate on the appeal of the marvelous chapel painting and the life it represents, and to kneel before the altar to pray for whatever concern occupies their mind; and to pray specifically —

1. For God's will to be done in one's personal life.
2. For God's will to be done in one's home relationships.
3. For God's will to be done in business and industry.
4. For God's will to be done in national and international relationships.
5. For harmony, happiness, peace and plenty to be the portion of all who seek the right.

The members and friends of the

The House the Lord Built

by John B. Christian



FOREST CHAPEL

THE groves were the original temples of God. So says the poet.*

But, Lloyd B. Austin, founder of Forest Chapel near Tamarack Lodge, Mammoth Lakes, California, feels that such poetic observations should take concrete form. So, he has caused to be erected one of the few, if any, outdoor chapels in America.

It is fitting and proper that a tribute be paid to the foresight, or perhaps we should call it insight, of this remarkable pace-setter who, for years has been engaged in a profession which has not always been known for even a passing interest in this subject.

In an attempt to retrieve the reputation of the original innkeeper who refused sanctuary to the mother of the Christ-child in dismal Bethlehem long ago, Mr. Austin has distinguished himself by making available this outdoor clearing among the trees—this

*See attached poem: "The Groves."

church are admonished to tell their friends about (and invite them to visit) the private prayer chapel—the fact being emphasized that, by so doing, they may be rendering them the greatest service they will ever be able to render. "Prayer changes things" and "Prayer changes people." It can change homes. It can change the world! Who ques-

"praying space" as old Bray called it back in Pennsylvania—to all and sundry who frequented his resort, perhaps one of the most beautiful and surely the most reputable lodge in all the High Sierras, to be approached through Bishop, California.

This is not the first time Mr. Austin has done this sort of thing. His original was a real stone chapel high up in the Sierra Madres above Pasadena known as Switzer's Camp.

In the dedication service held quite recently, the visiting clergyman, the Rev. James T. Mordy of the South Pasadena Presbyterian Church, declared that "the purpose in building this chapel is to provide each person with a place where they might have a vital and eternal experience with the Almighty God." So right! They do indeed. Try it.

THE GROVES

By Mrs. E. J. Hildabidel

The groves were God's first temples,
They still call man to worship, and
teach in many parables.
Now, learn a parable from the Red-wood Tree.

He was centuries old in Abraham's Day,

His life was half lived when the Star of Bethlehem

Led the wise men to the Infant Savior,
Yet he stands here in our forests still,
Speaking to all who have ears to hear.
These are the things he told me—

The secrets that made him the oldest
And largest of all God's living things:
"To be content with small beginnings,
(For his seed is as tiny as the mustard.)

"To be patient with slow development,
(For he grows but a few inches a year.)

"To stand erect, (for only low trees
Can afford to stoop and lean.)

"To grow so tall as to live always in
the sunshine,
(For it's the underbrush that hides
God, and the sin.)

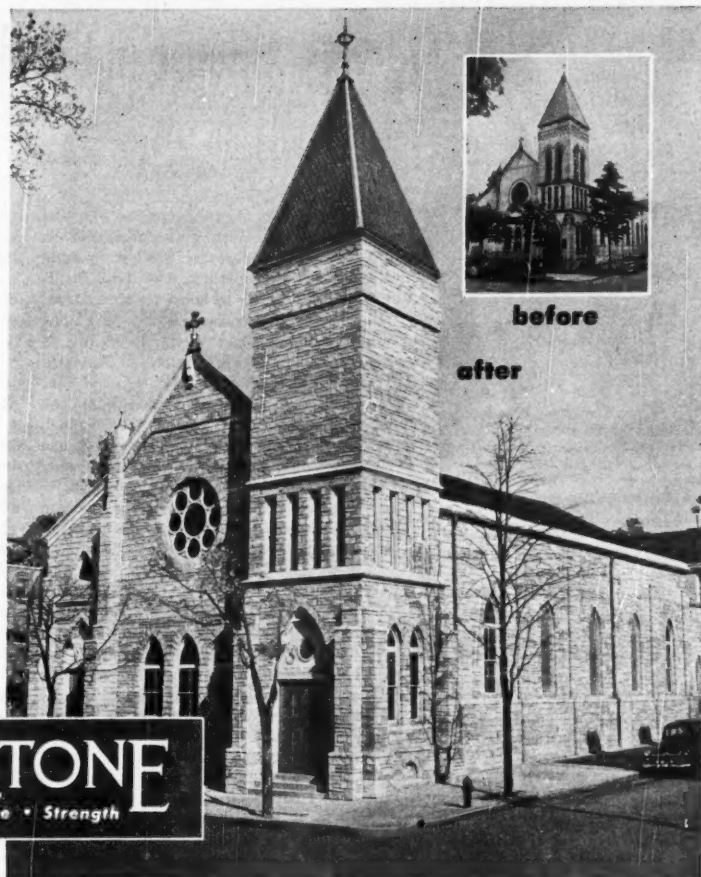
"To outlive every hindrance, (for while
fire, storms and lightning kill
other trees, he survives,—never
to stop growing.)"

tions that "More things are wrought by prayer than this old world dreams of?"

It is my sincere conviction that Protestant churches of all denominations will increasingly make provision for "A Private Prayer Chapel" in their church buildings. The pity is that so many of them have waited so long to begin.

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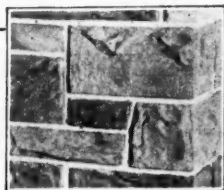
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A House Not Made With Hands

A Dedicatorial Sermon

by George B. Ratcliffe*

TWO years ago we gathered here one Sunday morning to set in motion the campaign for pledges to build for this church some additional facilities with which to house its educational and social activities. At that time none of us knew what we might be able to do. We had grown somewhat, but still it was a venture of faith, a belief that with God's help what needed to be done could be done. A goal of \$40,000, to a church whose reputation had never had associated with it any such whisper of or disreputable terms as debt or mortgage seemed like hitching one's wagon to a star. But it was hitched, not merely to \$40,000, but when building costs and contractors' bids shot our goal, for even less building than we had first hoped to erect, up to \$50,000, only the very fearful blinked an eye. "A mortgage? So what!" said the church, "We need rooms for our boys and girls, our growing church school and young people." And everybody knew that in our old kitchen women could not turn around unless all turned at the same time.

And so we built. Although it is not all we dreamed originally, yet we have learned that dreams can be made true, and that castles once in the air can become tangible realities set in forms that carpenters and masons and workmen of all sorts skillfully fashioned in accordance with those mysterious things called architect's plans. Those plans we discovered to be not like the laws of the Medes and Persians, but quite changeable and capable of fluctuating in extent and elegance in direct proportion to the latest report from the finance committee regarding the treasury. The structure as completed is in keeping with our historical colonial church, organized in 1678 and built upon this site in 1834.

While we were in the midst of building many of us saw the movie "Mr. Blanding Builds His Dream House" and felt a strange kinship with the man who saw his bills for extras mounting up and up. How fascinating it has been for us all to watch developments from a hole in the ground to the last touches of the decorator's brush. Time will tell, but we believe that what has been built has been well built. Honest skillful toil is a service unto God, and we thank the

workmen who toiled conscientiously in its construction. We are reminded of the frequently told incident in which an observer is said to have asked three different men working on the structure of a building, "What are you doing?" The first said, "Breaking stone, can't you see?" The second said, "I am earning \$15 a day." But the third replied, "I am building a cathedral." The latter type, I think, must have been predominant among the workmen in the erecting of our new parish house. To be sure we all have a little different feeling toward a parish house, to be used for all sorts of wholesome activities that may center about such a building, from what we have for a sanctuary. But yet it is a special sort of house, not just like a civic hall or public building. It is so closely tied up with all that goes on here as a church that it is a part of that which in God's name serves the legitimate needs of human lives, and so, I think, it was with reverence and a sense of building something for God and man together that the workmen labored in its building.

It is a house that has been made with hands: trained hands that handled hammers and saws and lumber and cement and paint and other things, skilled hands that drew the plans, generous hands that reached down deep and came up with the currency and pledges necessary to make it possible, helping hands that alone could never have built it but which joined with others have caused its walls to rise.

Why did I then put down as the theme for this morning, "The House Not Made With Hands"? For the simple reason that one of the greatest tragedies that could befall us as a church would be that we should erect a building, beautiful as it is, with little thought beyond the building itself, its newness and elegance, or fail to see that this building is not the real building which we are engaged in erecting at all. Tangible things like walls, rooms, lights, heating and lovely furnishings even, are not the ultimate goals around a church. This that we have built is not what we are really seeking to build. It is but the scaffolding by means of which we seek to erect a less tangible structure in human lives, a structure of Christian manhood and womanhood, of peace and good will among men. If these new facilities are

*Minister, First Congregational Church, Milton, Massachusetts.

not to be instruments in building uprightness of character in the lives of young and old and unselfishness of spirit in all the human relationships of mankind, what was the point of erecting them? Of what use are our facilities for fellowship unless such sociability can be a service to the world in developing wholesome friendships that help people to live above the level of the friendships that would drag down if formed in cheap and unwholesome quarters? It is for the church to build the house of friendship that shall be large enough to include all classes of people. Even with our added facilities we shall not have room for any spirit of exclusiveness.

I shall be deeply disappointed to see a mark of any kind upon the freshly decorated walls or any evidence of carelessness, as if one would treat with disrespect that which has been so finely built and at so great a cost. But what will burn deeper into my soul will be any slight scars upon that spiritual structure of Christian fellowship, which by means of this building we are seeking to create in our fellowship, our community, and our world. God forbid that we should ever put the house made with hands in a category of superior worth to that other more real, even if more intangible, house not made with hands.

A House of Good Will

If any of us have any question in our minds as to the need for the building of the house of Christian character and Christian friendship and goodwill in our world, we have but to look about us where periodically we insane mortals spend our billions, not merely destroying each other's property but tearing down whatever of goodwill has been erected by those who have gone before us. Any investment in building a house of world friendship is, even from the dollar standpoint, shrewd strategy, and, if it is done in the spirit of Christ, untold mothers of growing boys all over the world may yet feel under an unpayable debt to you for the service you have helped to render.

If our beautiful and elaborate kitchen and dining room be but a place where food may be more easily and efficiently prepared or more comfortably eaten, we have missed the point of all this expense. Any restaurant might do as much. The operation of such facilities must be made in some way the occasion for Christian service and the generating of goodwill.

Of what use our facilities for education, and how could we justify our parish house expense, if the education that goes on within its walls be not a distinctly Christian education? The public schools can teach boys and girls

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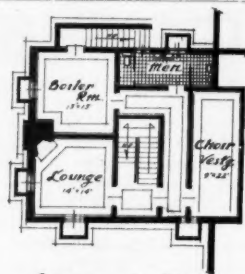
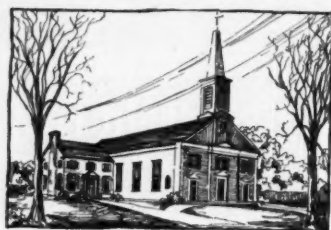
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what a secular world demands that they should know. But in a civilization where the secularization of life has almost caused us to run amuck it is up to the church to build a house of Christian character, upon whose foundations any stability in human society must rest. Of what use our nursery unless it be to introduce children early to the simple joys of unselfishness, as they learn to play and work together and learn to know God in the response of their sensitive spirit to the beauty and care which they are led to behold in the world in which they live?

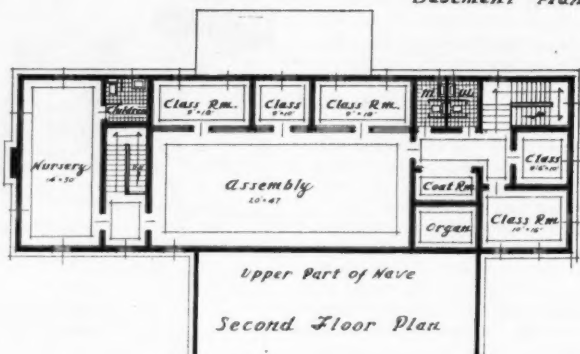
Of what use any of our rooms which we have built unless through their wise and unselfish use, in cooperation with one another, and our desire that they be used by an ever-enlarging group, we are entering into that experience of sharing through which the Divine comes to be known by individuals and groups? In short only as we use this parish house to help to so construct in human life that which shall be a fitting temple of the living God, and help to so build the structure of the human relationships of mankind that they shall be the habitation of unselfishness, was there any point in our erecting it at all.

A Fresh Beginning

So, you see, we are but making a fresh beginning in the construction of that greater house not made with hands but with minds and hearts. No, I'll correct that. That greater structure has already been begun. Nay, the foundations were laid in the yesterdays of the Christian church with Jesus Christ the cornerstone, and the saints and martyrs have been the living stones in that spiritual structure being reared across intervening years. Even while we have been constructing this house made with hands, have you not been able to see, at times dimly but then again with no uncertain clearness, that spiritual structure not made with hands taking shape? Even in the making of generous pledges and other lovely gifts, and when you joined your hands to do unitedly what no one of us could have done alone, I think I could see the walls of that greater spiritual building rising. As I have watched men and women of this congregation devoting their time and energy not only to the planning but to the finishing touches to enhance the beauty and usefulness of our material building, methinks I have seen in such unselfish devotion the very essence of that which holds together all the best materials necessary for the building of a better world. As I have thought of the sacrifices made in many instances in order to help build a parish house, my eyes were open to see the costliest materials that can be used in erecting that spiritual structure of which I have

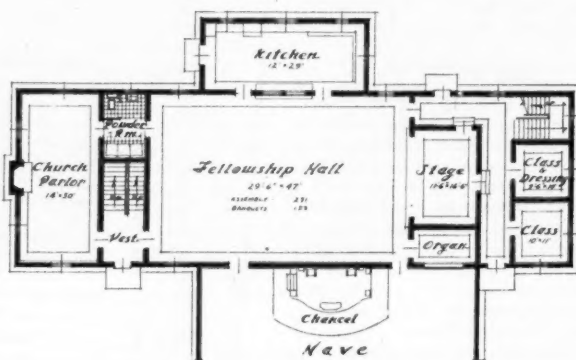


Basement Plan



Upper Part of Nave

Second Floor Plan



Nave

First Floor Plan

EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL ROOMS

First Congregational Church, Milton, Massachusetts

Here the architect has preserved the traditional New England Colonial and added the necessary educational and social rooms. The right wing addition has not, as yet, been completed. George B. Ratliffe is the minister; architect, Arland A. Dirlam of Boston.

been speaking. As I stood fascinated by an artist's skill with brush and colors fashioning upon our nursery walls a mural which will thrill the little children who will gather there, making it easier for their little minds to grasp God's care for all his creatures, I seemed to see the temple of the living God rising slowly in the lives and attitudes of the growing generations that

shall use that room.

Let us not lose heart if in the process of building this house of Christian character, friendship, justice and goodwill, the work seems slow, and each time you teach a class or guide some parish house activity or extend a hearty welcome to someone in the name of Christ and his church, you are unable

(Turn to page 37)

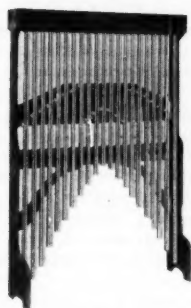

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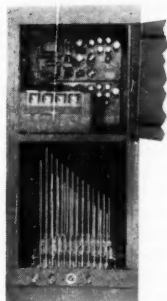
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Rev. P. C. Van der Hiel, Jr., Rector

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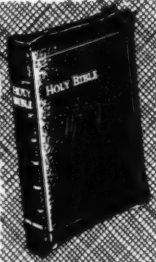
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- THE CHURCH LAWYER -

Speculating With Church Funds

by Arthur L. H. Street

COULD a New York church corporation legally buy an apartment building as an investment? No, decided the New York City Court, Kings County, in the recent case of *Bowman v. Bloomfield Management, Inc.*, 87 N. Y. Supp. 2d 857. Although the court that rendered the decision is a minor one, whose decisions are reviewable in higher courts of the state, the reasoning is obviously so sound as to convince the writer that it is not apt to be reversed on any appeal that may be taken in the case. Furthermore, it is in line with several decisions that have been rendered by other courts of higher authority.

In *Haight v. First Baptist Church, Camillus, N. Y.*, 42 Fed. Supp. 925, it was decided that defendant was without power to invest in national bank stock.

In a Georgia case mentioned in these columns not long ago—*Harriman v. First Baptist Church*, 63 Ga. 186—it was decided defendant was not empowered to operate an excursion boat to secure funds to support the church. Reference has also been made to a decision of the Nebraska Supreme Court, to the effect that it was not lawful to use church funds for speculation in vacant lands. (*Thompson v. West*, 59 Neb. 677, 82 N. W. 13.)

In the case before the New York City Court, a real estate broker sued defendant, owner of an apartment house, for a commission for finding a purchaser for the property—the A. M. E. Zion Church of Brooklyn. Defendant successfully defended the suit on the ground that the church had no legal power to make such an investment.

The court pointed out that the powers of corporations are limited, but "recognized that the problem is a broad one, capable of serious and important impact, since many religious corporations are or may become possessed of large sums of money available for general investment."

Reference was made to Section 5 of the Religious Corporations Law of New

York, which gives control of the affairs of such corporations to trustees for church uses, and forbidding them to "use such property or revenues for any other purpose or divert the same from such uses." The section also provides for the investment of trust funds in the manner permitted by law for the investment of other trust funds.

The court further pointed out that the Legislature had particularized the character of real estate that could be held, such as for use as chapels, mission houses, parsonages, etc.

It was argued by attorneys that church trustees should be left free to invest funds, being answerable only for misconduct or improvidence. The court replied:

"Public policy dictates that funds contributed by the general community or by the membership of a church corporation, intended for ecclesiastical purposes, shall not be diverted into business investments, necessarily speculative in nature. . . . The temptation to make speculative investments in quest for additional funds for new construction or extensive alterations to existing church properties, or even for maintenance purposes, is one which the law cannot encourage by a so-called 'liberal' construction of the powers of the corporate trustees.

"Social and spiritual aims cannot be budgeted for with worthless mining or oil stocks or acreage in the Sahara Desert. That the making of such investments would be improvident and subject the trustees to personal liability is inadequate protection for the congregation. . . .

"Section 5 does confer upon the trustees complete title to the property . . . of the corporation, for the support and maintenance of the corporation. This does not, however, mean the right to make business investments even for income for the support of the church, but, rather the mere power to employ such funds as may come into their possession for the payment of the necessary expenditures of the ecclesias-

tical and kindred functions of such religious corporation. That such is the clear legislative intent is evident from the express provisions of Section 5 which empower the turning over of surplus moneys and properties in the possession of the corporate trustees to investment trustees, who . . . are expressly limited to the making of investments legal for trust funds. . . .

"The conclusion appears inescapable, therefore, that the religious corporation's powers must be held to be limited to those expressly granted by the provisions of the Religious Corporations Law, . . . and that such powers do not include the right to invest even surplus for business or speculative uses."

A House Not Made With Hands

(From page 34)

to see the principle you have nailed in as bringing the total building nearer to completion.

A builder built a temple,
He wrought it with grace and skill;
Pillars and groins and arches
All fashioned to work his will.
Men said as they saw its beauty,
"It shall never know decay.
Great is thy skill, O builder:
Thy fame shall endure for aye."

A teacher built a temple
With loving and infinite care,
Planning each arch with patience,
Laying each stone with prayer.
None praised her unceasing efforts,
None knew of her wondrous plan;
For the temple the teacher builded
Was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple,
Crumbled into the dust;
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for consuming rust.
But the temple the teacher builded
Will last while the ages roll,
For that beautiful unseen temple
Is a child's immortal soul.

Occasionally in your travels you have come to a fence or barricade behind which chugged a great steam shovel or rapid fire riveting machine, and upon the barricade was a sign to the effect that upon this sight was being erected a store or school, apartment house, or civic center. It was in the process of building. Well, over the doors of our parish house, now that the contractor's sign is no longer there, shall we not see each time that we come to it this sign in invisible and yet in flaming letters: IN THE PROCESS OF BUILDING UPON THIS SITE A HOUSE OF GOOD WILL AMONG MEN, RESTING UPON THE FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER, JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE. BEING ERECTED BY GOD AND MAN, GOD HIMSELF BEING THE SUPREME ARCHITECT OF ALL THAT WILL TOWER O'ER THE WRECKS OF TIME.



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Volunteer Labor Helps in Church Maintenance

by Ralph A. Felton*

This is a reprint of chapter VIII of Professor Felton's very useful little book entitled "Men Working; a Study in Voluntary Labor Gifts."

ALL families who own property realize the importance of keeping it in repair. The roof must be fixed before it leaks. Paint preserves the wood. Weeds must be cut and grass must be mowed. In the city, people regularly call a plumber, a painter, an electrician or a carpenter when help is needed. Farmers and village people are more apt to care for their property themselves. There are few rural churches who do not have some members who can do almost any maintenance job.

Although in some cases the work might not be done so well by local men, there are other values to compensate. A pastor in a church in New York State explained this when he said, "If one works for his church, he will be interested in it. Labor gifts get people to work together and create a feeling of unity. I find even that church attendance is increased as a result."

Painting

The painting of the church or the parsonage is one of the most successful group projects. One-third of the 341 churches used it. The reports show that 886 men helped, saving for their churches \$10,734. A frame building needs painting about every five years. The labor of these men saved each of the 114 churches an average of \$116.67. Also, the men supplemented their cash gifts to the church by more than fifty per cent.

As we look at the record of one rural church, Herman, Nebraska, we see the importance of labor gifts in the maintenance of its property.

Man Hours

Painting the exterior of the church	151
Landscaping (and 2 tractors and 2 trucks)	59
Laying linoleum	56
Plumbing	48
Roofing (shingling)	32
Installing a cabinet and sink	10

*Department of the Rural Church, Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, New Jersey.



The men of Emanuel Church, R. F. D. 2, Thomasville, North Carolina, building a sidewalk in front of their new parsonage by voluntary labor.

Painting the interior of the church (donated by the women) ----- 238

Carpentry Repairs

A church in Zeeland, Michigan, has a "repair committee." In their spare time throughout the year and with the aid of other helpers these men keep the church and parsonage in repair. The pastor said, "I find that such labor has a very beneficial effect upon the spiritual life of the congregation."

In a church at Concord, Illinois, a young war veteran whose hobby is woodworking donates his labor to his church.

A Pennsylvania pastor got a group of young men interested in the church by asking them to build a large rack for displaying literature. One man also built an outdoor bulletin board.

Among the 341 churches, ninety-nine reported that their carpentry repairs were done by donated labor. Each of the 572 men who did this work thus contributed an average of \$11.23.

Plumbing and Heating

One might ask if there is a need for labor gifts for plumbing and heating. In a study of 1,118 rural parsonages made by the writer in 1948 it was found that 22.3 per cent were still heated by stoves. Two-thirds of those using the stoves said they were inadequate. One-fourth of the parsonages that had furnaces had insufficient radiation.

In 44 churches out of the 341 included in this present survey, the laymen were doing something to improve their church and parsonage as far as plumbing and heating were concerned. These 205 men gave labor amounting to \$99.40 per church.

The men at Altoona, Iowa, installed a rest room in their church with donated labor which would have cost \$150.

At Auburn, Kansas, a bathroom was built in the parsonage and the men helped the plumber who was employed, thereby reducing the cost \$200.

Masonry Repairs

There were forty-seven churches reporting masonry repairs among their labor gifts, valued at a total of \$1,995.

In all of the 757 reports of donated maintenance work of all kinds, there were only two cases where the pastors complained of the harmful effects of the project. As a rule the men who donate their labor, do so to serve Christ and his church and do not seek recognition or special credit for the work they do.

Electrical Work

Sixteen per cent of the churches had electrical work done by donated labor. One of these fifty-four churches was Altoona, Iowa, in which a layman installed chimes, a job which would have cost \$115. He was a first class elec-

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*F. O. B. Sellersville, Pa.

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Women of Old Bridge, New Jersey, painted their church pews and also the interior of their social hall. The men painted the outside of the church and put new glass in the windows.

tronic man. These chimes tell to the entire community that these men who donate their labor really believe that the church is important.

Wall Papering

Men and women share about equally in the task of papering the parsonage or church. Only eleven per cent of the churches used this labor gift and it amounted to only \$49.11 per church.

Roofing

A new roof on a church or parsonage was reported by 29 churches. The amount saved, however, because of the donated labor was large, amounting to \$96.55 per church, each man contributing thereby \$11.23.

Cleaning the Church

Highest in numbers among all the tasks of maintaining the church property is the annual cleaning day. The pews are scrubbed and the entire building is thoroughly cleaned. Thirty-eight per cent of the churches care for this by volunteer labor. The total number of volunteer workers is large, 1,466 members and 155 non-members. The total saving amounted to \$5,082.

Caring for the Church Lawn

The 4-H Club takes care of the church lawn at Blanchard, Michigan. In some cases each boy selects one week of the spring or summer when he is to be responsible for the lawn. Some churches do not feel they should be bothered with supervising the boys. One young man 19 years old joined a church in Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey, one Sunday morning. The next week he volunteered to care for the church

lawn. Some churches lose their young men partly because there seems to be nothing around the church that the boys can do. Forty-six churches of the 341 used such volunteer work in caring for their lawns which saved them a total of \$1,652 or \$10.94 per boy.

Janitor Work

There was considerable complaint against having the furnace or stoves cared for by volunteers. Of the 15 projects for maintaining the church and parsonage, this ranked lowest in its quality points. It was in the fourth quartile next to food sales and bazaars.

This does not lend itself to cooperative or group work such as painting the church or putting on a new roof, and therefore its fellowship value is low.

Nevertheless, thirteen per cent of the churches used the plan. At the Big Spring Church in White County, Tennessee, a list of the months of the year is posted on the indoor bulletin board and the names of the two women who care for the church that month. The plan has been used for several years and has been found successful.

A layman in a church in eastern Pennsylvania who commutes to Philadelphia each work-day contributes his time to care for the little rural church in the community in which he lives. He does a better job than an ordinary employed janitor.

Sunday after Sunday, a layman and his wife walk about two miles to their church at Zion, New Jersey, to build the fires and prepare the church for worship. It means finishing the morning chores at home at about two hours earlier each Sunday morning in order

to have a warm church for their neighbors.

The forty-seven churches who use this plan estimate that the average value of this labor gift is \$83.71 per year.

Cutting Wood for Church Use

Many churches have a "wood-cutting bee." This is a group activity and the social values are high. It ranked fourth from the top out of seventy-two items. Its quality score was 95.2 per cent. Usually some farmer with a wood lot gives the men the opportunity to cut all the fallen timber.

A rural pastor in New York state arranged a wood-cutting bee of this kind and so many men came they hauled in enough wood for the church and parsonage for the year and then had some to sell. These men talked about that experience for some time.

Hauling Coal for Church Use

The majority of churches find the use of coal or oil more efficient than wood. The men who contribute their labor for hauling coal bring their trucks and the average contribution of each man is \$20.37 as against \$5.37 for the wood cutters.

It may not be a fair comparison, but the average Protestant in America contributed \$20.86 to the church in 1947. These men who hauled the coal, contributed \$20.37 thereby, in addition to their regular cash gifts.

Care of the Cemetery

In many rural communities the cemetery is the property of the church. At Denver, Pennsylvania, the church has a committee of men who voluntarily care for the cemetery.

In another Pennsylvania church this is done by the youth group. The pastor of this church said, "Where labor gifts have been freely given, good fellowship and church loyalty are higher." Twenty churches in this study cared for the cemetery by the use of labor gifts which was a saving of \$85 per church.

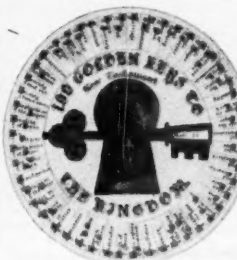
Plowing the Pastor's Garden

Eighty-two per cent of rural pastors have a garden as was shown in a study in 1947 of 1,136 parsonages. These are larger than city gardens. Three-fourths of them contain over 1,000 square feet, eighteen per cent cover over a quarter of an acre. In seventeen per cent of the 341 churches in this study some layman volunteered each year to plow the pastor's garden. This may seem like a small labor gift, \$10.74 for the average parsonage, but it is almost half as much as the average church member gives to his church for the entire year.

Spraying the Pastor's Orchard

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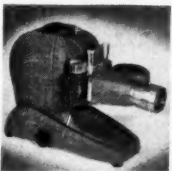
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seventeen per cent have an orchard. As was noted above, eighty-two per cent have a garden. The pastor's family needs fruit as much as vegetables. A garden develops in a year; it takes an orchard from five to ten years. Also an orchard needs to be sprayed. In every fruit section each farmer has spraying apparatus. By adding this labor gift to our list of seventy-two items it was hoped that the parsonage orchards could be increased and improved.

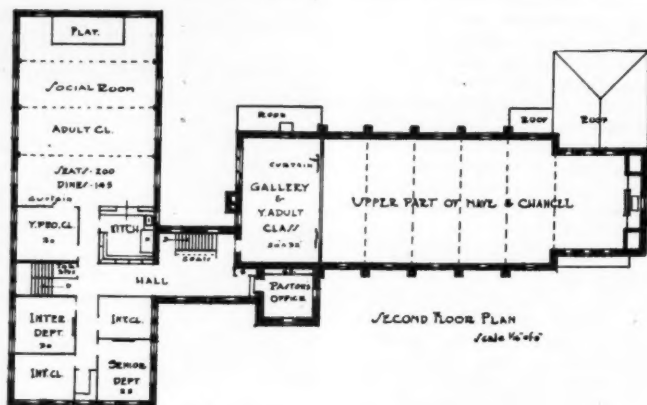
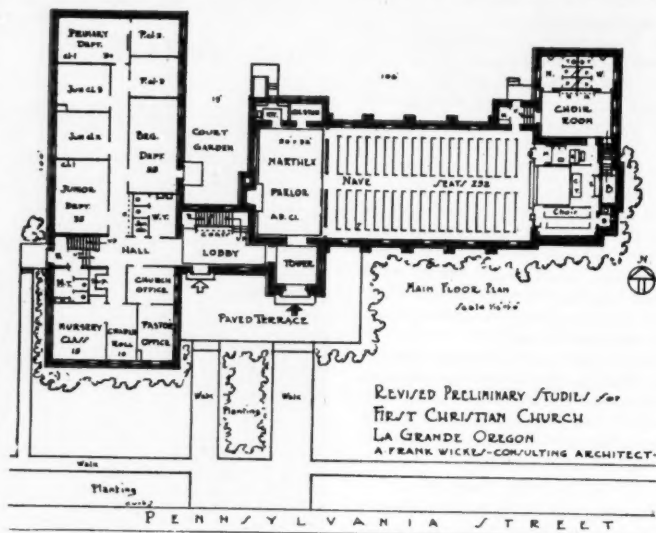
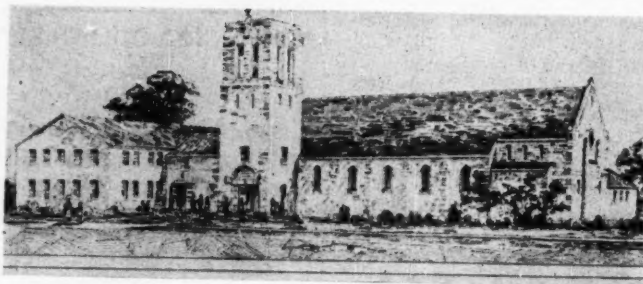
Efficient rural pastors, as a rule, should receive more for their work. This can be accomplished in at least three ways. The cash salary can be increased by better stewardship methods, such as the use of the every member canvass, the weekly envelope system, and the giving of a definite proportion of one's income. A pastor's income is also increased by providing him with an opportunity to raise vegetables, berries, fruit and poultry on the parsonage lot. A third way of compensating him is by providing him with a modern parsonage, having built-in labor-saving equipment. A certain church may have a pastor who is "worth" \$4,000 a year. Its members may be unable to pay him this amount, but they can provide him with a parsonage equal to or better than other "\$4,000-families" in that community.

In trying to summarize this chapter on "Maintenance of the Church and Parsonage" we see that the jobs are nearly all things which the layman can do, for they do them in their own homes. In each case they are not a "device" of these laymen to keep from supporting their church. These men contribute these labor gifts as extras. The group projects afford excellent fellowship. They create new loyalty to the church. The tasks are things the men can understand, can do and can see. They are all necessary tasks, not created simply to keep the members busy.

As one rural minister near Milwaukee said, "I approve of labor gifts in building and repairing church property. There is something unifying and wholesome in working physically together."

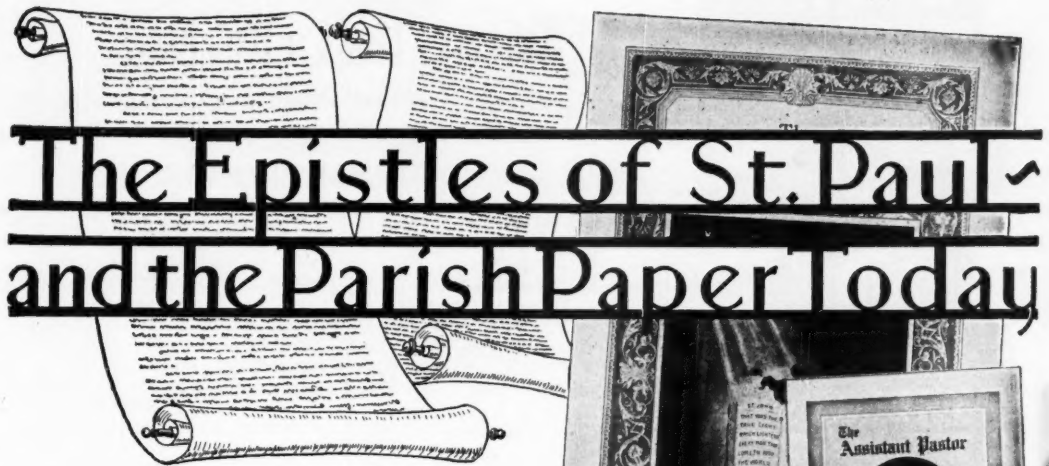
"The Lord rightly demands at least a part of our time, our ability, and our possessions," is the way a rural pastor at Herndon, Kansas, appraised the labor gifts of his men.

In these fifteen tasks of maintaining the church and parsonage, 4,130 members and 873 non-members contributed labor valued at \$41,277. All of this was unselfish service for the churches they love. The men had a fine fellowship in working together.



PROPOSED FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH La Grande, Oregon

Under the direction of architect A. Frank Wickes, this proposed new church will offer a design for worship, fellowship, education and personal comfort. Some of the features are a narthex parlor, with kitchenette; all classrooms, above ground, are arranged so that no room is a passageway, an additional pastor's office on the second floor. The walls are pumice block with native stone veneer.



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From the very beginning of Christianity the early Fathers realized that they must make use of every help available to spread the message of their beloved Master. While filled with ardor, they were but a mere handful of men and could not hope to visit all the cities of the world and preach the Gospel.

Saint Paul did much to solve their problem by writing his Epistles to the various congregations. These letters were copied and sent to other churches—they were read again and again.

While the pastor of today does not have to cover so much territory, he is beset with other difficulties. He must carry on the business management of his church, cheer the sick, call on members and prospective members, and take part in all social and spiritual activities.

The average pastor realizes he needs help. Here is where the Parish Paper enters. With this help, the busy pastor can talk to every member of his flock in his own home—can tell of the work being done, stress the needs of the parish and strengthen the ties of Christian fellowship.

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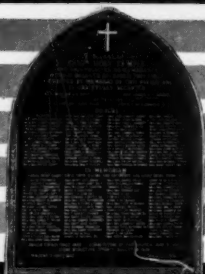
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Observer Finds a Welcome

And He Comments on the Lost Opportunities of Some Churches

by Observer

COME IN
WITH LOVE FOR GOD AND
MAN
NOR FEAR
TO WAIT AS A STRANGER
IN THIS QUIET PLACE
FOR GOD
HIMSELF WILL PRESENTLY
APPEAR
AND SMILE A WELCOME
FROM A FRIENDLY FACE
AND OFFER YOU
WITH OTHERS WAITING
HERE
THE BREAD OF FELLOWSHIP
THE CUP OF GRACE

IT WAS at a theological seminary, just outside the beautiful chapel of that school, that Observer found this welcome. It was not a verbal, nor a personal one; rather, it was a silent, all-inclusive invitation to every visitor. The very universality of it was significant. Its words were attractively printed in colored inks in poster style on a large poster-size card, and carefully mounted in a large glass-doored case fastened to the wall of the corridor leading to the chapel.

Whoever was its author (it is said to have been written by one of the students of that seminary at the time of the building of the chapel) he was blessed with the ability to say a good deal in a few words. A remarkable qualification, that, for the ministry!

In less than fifty words, forty-seven to be exact, he has put into permanent form just the kind of invitation and welcome which might well grace the lawn of every church and speak forth its constant invitation night and day to every passer-by. The arrangement of the words (there was no punctuation) is of vital importance as well as the words themselves.

These forty-seven words are well worthy of examination and of careful analysis.

COME IN. The very presence of this chapel on this campus is an invitation. It is not just another room like the many class and lecture rooms. It is, in a very special sense, a Beth-El. But the invitation must be accepted. The reader of the invitation has an opportunity and a responsibility—he must do

something about this invitation.

WITH LOVE FOR GOD AND MAN. The spirit in which he accepts the invitation and enters is bound to influence profoundly both the quality and quantity of the blessing he finds here.

NOR FEAR. Since they are obviously a part of a clause, perhaps these words should not have been placed by themselves, yet there is an appropriate message in them even as they stand on a line all their own. When coupled with the line just above and permitted to serve as a reminder of I John 4:18, they make an additional suggestion as to the spirit in which to enter a house of worship.

TO WAIT AS A STRANGER IN THIS QUIET PLACE. This quiet place is one of surpassing beauty. This particular chapel is not large, but it has a genuinely worshipful atmosphere. In addition, it has some unusually significant things. Among the medallions of the stained glass windows there are three not ordinarily found in churches:

"The Ox, The Plow, and The Altar, with the inscription, 'Ready for Either'" is in one window as a challenging call to foreign mission service. It is a reproduction of the great seal of the foreign mission society of that denomination to which this theological seminary belongs.

"The Scales of Justice" with the reference, Amos 5:24, is an interesting challenge to leadership in social and civic righteousness.

The Deer at the Brook and Psalm 42:1, offers a hint as to the necessity for spiritual refreshment, even in the midst of theological study.

FOR GOD. "This is none other than the House of God and this is the gate of heaven." It is not merely its beauty, though that is superlative; nor its distinctively religious architecture, though that is correct and impressive; nor its quietness—nor all of these together, which make this place important. What really counts is that it is a "House of God" and because it is that, it is therefore and naturally, "The gate of heaven."

HIMSELF WILL PRESENTLY APPEAR. It would not take too much of a stretch of the imagination to picture those theological students sometimes becoming just a wee bit weary in the midst of their thoroughly detailed

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studies of ancient lore and languages and litanies, and coming to this chapel sincerely seeking for the reality of God's presence.

Notice the positiveness of these words—no "perhaps" or "possibly" or "may"—but "will appear." And note also the "presently"—not something of a remote future.

AND SMILE A WELCOME FROM A FRIENDLY FACE. There are here three "remembering" sort of words—"Smile," "Welcome," "Friendly." Certainly this author did not find the classic Gothic lines of that chapel "cold," as some folks have sometimes mistakenly described Gothic architecture!

AND OFFER YOU WITH OTHERS WAITING HERE. This promised blessing is a personal one—it comes from God direct to "You," whoever you are and whatever may be your needs of the moment. But it is never exclusive—it is for "You with Others."

THE BREAD OF FELLOWSHIP THE CUP OF GRACE. Which is to say that whether in a solemn service, or in a brief moment of personal quiet, taken in the midst of a busy day, this visit with God in his House will be a real Sacrament.

The Observer does not know the stu-

dent who is said to have composed this remarkable welcome, does not even know his name, but he is glad to pass it on to the many ministerial readers of *Church Management*, as a gentle hint that it is well worth copying, in proper and dignified style, and mounting on the outside of their church buildings.

This whole matter of a printed, or painted, welcome sign outside our churches deserves much more attention than it has usually received from either the minister, the architect, or the trustees. In fact, Observer has frequently, in his travels, had the disappointing experience of trying in vain to discover the name and the denomination of a church. It is certainly well within the facts of the situation to assert that a large majority of our Protestant churches, even including those which do have an identifying sign, fail to display on the outside of the church building any sign, poster or inscription which could serve to intimate to the casual passer-by that he is welcome within. Grant that it might not be accepted very often by strangers, does that possibility absolve the church from the responsibility of offering the welcome?

Why such neglect? Surely not be-

cause the churches do not want the casual visitors; nor because they are so filled with their own members that there is no room left for strangers! Nor can it be because an attractive, well-mounted welcome sign on the outside of the church, or out on the lawn in front of it is too expensive. "Why such neglect?"—probably just "neglect." It just hasn't occurred to anyone. Well, now it has "occurred to" at least the readers of this article, and the Observer hopes that in the very near future the artists in some churches will have an unexpected chance to utilize some of their talents for the church.

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The United Evangelistic Advance

by Elmer G. Homrighausen

In a concise statement Dr. Homrighausen of the Princeton Theological Seminary tells of the origin, the purpose and technique of the United Evangelistic Advance, now demanding the energies of our churches.

The Birth of the Advance

THE United Evangelistic Advance is a spontaneous creation of the Holy Spirit in the minds of denominational evangelistic leaders. It all started two years ago. At a meeting of the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, Jesse M. Bader, executive secretary of the Department, made his regular report on the progress of the work. At the close of his stimulating address, he proposed that since we were nearing the middle of the century, we should consider the inauguration of a concerted evangelistic effort to win America for Jesus Christ. The time was ripe, he declared. The denominations were ready to work together at something greater than their own projects. The situation was such that only a concerted witness made by all the churches along all fronts could give the Gospel message the power it demanded to arrest the attention of men and win their loyalty. The idea instantly made its appeal and a committee was appointed to study the possibility of such a united approach to the nation. At a later meeting, the program was presented to the Department and approved, and the United Evangelistic Advance was under way.

The guiding committee in charge consists of 62 members, representing not only the 27 denominations associated in the Federal Council, but eleven others not associated with the Council. A lay sponsoring committee of one thousand men, women and youth gives the Advance a substantial moral and spiritual support. Membership on both committees is widely representative of region and denominational affiliation.

The Advance is to begin officially on October 2, which is World Communion Sunday. A nation-wide broadcast is being prepared for the Saturday night previous. The Advance will close on December 31, 1950. After the fifteen-month period, services of gratitude will be held in many parts of the country. Coming as it does in the middle of the century it will look both backward and forward, backward to the sorry record

of human failure in this most enlightened age of history, and forward to the possibilities which may yet be if men will redeem the evil time through new life based upon repentance for sin and faith in the life-transforming power of Jesus Christ.

Thus 38 denominational bodies, representing 37 million Christians, will be engaging in a united witness: America for Christ. For over a year they will enlist the best spiritual and intellectual leadership to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all men.

The Preparation for the Advance

For two years, the denominational secretaries have been working at this program. It is not something apart from or in addition to the denominational programs; it comes as a natural climax to present church programs and brings them all together in a larger unity for the sake of Christ, the Church, and the people for whom he died. Most of the interdenominational agencies have approved the program, including the Home Missions Council, the International Council of Religious Education, the United Council of Church Women, and the Association of Council Secretaries, which embrace over 727 Councils of Churches in the land. Over 2,000 Ministerial Associations will cooperate to the limit of their ability.

The Federal Council at its meeting in Cincinnati in 1948, heartily endorsed the Advance.

Denominations now feel their kinship in evangelistic effort, and they desire to unite their resources in making a common witness which will be more effective and more in harmony with the will of Christ. The Advance does not seek to create organic unity in evangelistic effort, but it does offer the denominations an opportunity to fulfill their evangelistic tasks cooperatively and simultaneously. No denomination or Church Council is asked to take the entire program of the Advance, but only that part of it which is feasible and possible. Whatever they do, they will be in the same United Advance at the same time. This is a new type of united effort. From October, 1949, to

December, 1950, nearly forty denominations will be concentrating on one great effort to reach all men with the Gospel. No standard pattern is expected from or imposed upon all or any group. The unity that is sought is that derived from concentration upon a common task.

The Urgency of the Advance

The Advance is an evangelistic program, resting upon the firm conviction that the churches must go about their basic and primary business, which is that of witnessing to the Gospel so that persons will become disciples of Christ and grow to maturity in their relationship to him. The churches are doing many important things for the betterment of society, at home and abroad. The Advance hopes to undergird those worthy endeavors by urging a more decisive sense of commitment to their Lord on the part of individual Christians in the everyday affairs of life. Evangelism is an urgent necessity in the present situation. The churches themselves need revival and renewal; to realize it they need to hear and respond to the Gospel afresh. The whole land needs cleansing of its unrighteousness by a resurgence of the spirit of repentance and the rebirth of responsible faith. Vast areas of our land have become alien to Jesus Christ; they must be reclaimed. Millions in our own land have not heard the Gospel at all; these must be reached with wisdom and in the spirit of love.

America's unprecedented wealth and influence need to be dedicated to God and his holy purpose if this nation is to fulfill its mission and bless the world under God. The call of this Advance is urgent; it is based upon the authority and passion of Jesus Christ. These are serious times, and men are called upon to repent and believe the Gospel that they might have new life and the world might be saved. At the halfway mark of the century, it is an appropriate time to engage in an Advance. During the last half century men dreamed dreams of a glorious future for mankind. The advance of science and technology gave men mastery over nature and a vision of a world freed from poverty, ignorance and disease. Life has been made comfortable beyond the imagination of our forebearers. Man has even mastered the secret of the atom.

But what has happened? The secu-

Fund-Raising Success PLUS

Will Your Campaign Leave a Plus or Minus Aftermath?

This challenging question was suggested by a recent letter from a pastor who wrote:

"After two years, we want to thank you for the PLUS values of your cooperation for our building fund program. One of our officers put it this way:

'Because of his record, we expected financial success. But to my mind, the spiritual fruitage from his leadership, including the preliminary "Spiritual Advance Crusade," was even more important than the money.'

"Three neighbor churches have achieved financial success; but, along with the best percentage of cash collections, we have had the happiest aftermath in the way of permanent educational and spiritual benefits. These include notable increases in attendance and membership for our church, our Sunday school and other interests. Our budget income is Up, while Minus is the word for one of these churches."

In every campaign, the "happy aftermath" is uppermost in our plans. Our program of preparation, adapted with equal satisfaction to Episcopal, Lutheran, Baptist and Methodist churches, has been praised by pastors and lay leaders of 21 communions as yielding marked benefits to the total church program, along with financial results achieved by stewardship education rather than by pressure methods which often yield a Minus rather than a Plus aftermath.

SOME TYPICAL PLUS TESTIMONIES

ATTENDANCE Minus. "When you first came to counsel with us, our officers were shy because of the unhappy aftermath of our former campaign. Along with financial disappointment, attendance fell off, and we could never regain former levels."

ATTENDANCE Plus. One year after our cooperation with this church, the pastor reported: "Attendance continues to run far above normal. While we have not been able to hold the 75% increase averaged for three months after you helped to initiate our History-Making Advance Program, our attendance at worship services continues to average 40%, and our Sunday school 55% above the records prior to your providential coming."

BUDGET INCOME Minus. "After our earlier campaign, our budget income dropped over 15%, partly because some opposed the campaign and some reduced regular gifts to cover part of their special subscriptions."

BUDGET INCOME Plus. "Now, our income is up more than 20% over what it was before we profited by your guidance; thanks partly to the increased enthusiasm and loyalty developed by the program, and partly to your repeated stress: 'Let none reduce gifts to regular income. Rather, let there be increases from those who have not been doing their part, so that your church may continue to advance along all lines.'"

CASH COLLECTIONS Minus. "Due to half-hearted enthusiasm and failure properly to prepare for our previous campaign, we were able to collect only 70% of the total pledged."

CASH COLLECTIONS Plus. From the same trustee, two years after our cooperation, came this report: "With only 65% due, more than 85% has been paid. Some have paid in full and are continuing to pay, and we expect to collect 20% in excess of the total subscribed."

ENLISTED WORKERS Minus. "It has always been difficult to enlist needed workers in our church. After the material emphasis in our former campaign, and its disappointing aftermath, many workers said: 'Never again.'"

ENLISTED WORKERS Plus. "Now, due to your help in developing various activities in which they could share without apologies, and to their enthusiasm over the developments of which they were partners, we have scores of men and women, young and old, ready to do their share in helping to serve Christ in and through our church."

Out of our experience in counseling more than 500 churches, helping to collect more than \$50,000,000, in forty states, we have learned. We will be happy to counsel with churches that wish likewise to assure a Plus rather than a Minus fund-raising aftermath.

Address Rev. Albert F. McGarrah, D.D., Church Counselor
301 Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh 11, Pa. Home Address: Grove City, Pa.

Pastors and Laymen Commend Our Services

Typical Quotes From Recent Testimonies -- Five Communions

From Dr. D. L. Browning, Pastor North Methodist, Indianapolis, Ind. (Educational unit—\$400,000 cost)

JULY, 1949. "Having reached our goal of \$175,000 in new subscriptions, plus \$80,000 in hand from previous efforts, we hope to break ground this fall.

"We very much appreciate your counsel and leadership. I feel that your help in promoting attendance and stewardship meant \$50,000 more from those who subscribed little or nothing in our former campaign."

From Rev. Wm. Burrows, Rector St. Paul's EPISCOPAL, Indianapolis, Ind.

SEPT., 1949. "As we approach the second anniversary of the dedication of our beautiful edifice on our new site, I am happy to thank you again for your ability to fit your plans so wisely to our Episcopal traditions . . . for your wealth of ideas and experience, for emphasizing the spiritual interests of our church as the basis for such splendid financial success.

"We have made notable gains in membership and in attendance, both for our worship services and for our youth and other activities . . . rapidly outgrowing our new plant."

From Rev. A. W. Wishart, Pastor First Presbyterian, Warren, Ohio

SEPT., 1949. "Our new educational unit (cost \$170,000) is nearing completion. We hope to use it before New Year's. Our people are so pleased with the financial developments that they expect to go on with extensive improvements to our historic edifice.

"We are delighted with the aftermath of your cooperation last autumn. To raise \$100,000 (now increased to \$110,000) on top of \$57,000 raised in two former campaigns, as you promised, exceeded all initial hopes. We have collected \$69,000 in cash within ten months—clear proof of the spiritual and financial value of your services."

From Rev. Ray J. Hunter, Pastor First Baptist Church, Salem, Ohio

SEPT., 1949. "Two years after our fire-loss, our church is in the new edifice. We look forward to notable growth in numbers and in usefulness.

"I want you to know how pleased we are with your guidance. We are well aware that results, exceeding our hopes, have been due in large measure to your wise counsel and leadership."

From Rev. Theo. Fisher, Pastor Northwood Christian, Indianapolis, Ind.

SEPT., 1949. "We broke ground last month for the first unit of our permanent house of worship on our large new site across the street, having achieved the goal of \$140,000 in cash and good subscriptions.

"We thank you again for your help—first, in 1947, helping our 400 members to raise \$80,000 in addition to \$20,000 from our own campaign; and for your continuing counsel and help to succeed in our 'Second Mile' efforts. Our people are all very happy about it."

larization of man's life has led him to the point of self-destruction. He lives in fear and torment regarding the future. Freedom is in jeopardy. Totalitarianism has emerged not to release, but to control men from the cradle to the grave. Life "loosed from God" has bred a godlessness that threatens to undo the very nature of human personality and destroy all hope of a better future. Men are not good enough to save themselves from the last great peril of life. They must find a way to control themselves and the power they use. To this predicament the Advance is directed. It is based upon the conviction that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is

the one hope for our sad and distraught world. The church needs revival and all men need to be born again by the Spirit of God.

The Mission of the Advance

The mission of the Advance is to assist every denomination in strengthening its churches both spiritually and numerically, and to help them achieve their own evangelistic responsibilities. The local parish is the basic unit of the evangelistic enterprise. The Advance also seeks to help pastors in communities to engage in their evangelistic tasks cooperatively and effectively. It aims to help local councils of churches

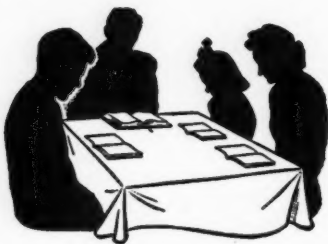
to bring the Gospel to whole communities, and denominational and interdenominational agencies, and personnel stand ready to cooperate in doing this work. The Advance believes that the key person in evangelism is the local pastor, and it therefore seeks the spiritual renewal and refreshment of pastors so that they may lead their people in the redemption of human life by the gentle and life-giving Christ. The Advance hopes that members in churches will be quickened and empowered to give their evangelistic witness, and through trained laymen, men, women and youth, to personally witness to their neighbors and friends for Christ. The Advance desires that through local church and community agencies the vast unchurched multitudes will be reached and won to Christian discipleship through every worthy means and method.

The Advance also hopes that churches will carefully instruct and assimilate new members who are brought into the full membership of the churches. It also aims to urge all members of churches, who are living in communities other than those in which they hold church membership, to transfer their membership to the churches in communities where they now reside. Hundreds of thousands of Christians are inactive due to absentee memberships. The Advance hopes for nothing less than the vital transformation of people through Christ, so that Christian personalities shall be developed in the home, in business, in politics, and in all the other human relationships of life in order that these new persons may help to create a more Christian society.

The Method of the Advance

How shall all this be accomplished? Not through any nation-wide spectacular scheme designed to bring masses of people into the memberships of religious organizations! It shall be done through the tried and tested methods which have been used by denominations so successfully during the past five and more years. We now have effective Christian ways of doing evangelistic work which we believe are in harmony with the New Testament and the nature of the Christian faith. These will be used when and where they may be found feasible and possible. The Advance should center in the community's churches.

In some areas of the country, the revival meeting will be used, shorn, to be sure, of its unethical and objectionable features. It must be recalled that hundreds of thousands of converts are initiated into the Christian faith and church by the revival. In some areas the teaching mission will be used, to cooperatively survey the community, to



FAITH IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

It is said that life insurance has a tremendous stake in the family. When the family goes, life insurance goes. The whole philosophy of our democracy is based on the family as the basic unit. And faith is a family affair. More than all others, Christians have a stake in the family.

To keep alive the family faith calls for a positive plan. Regular church attendance, daily prayers, Bible reading and meditation are the foundations of faith in countless homes. With the aid of The Upper Room families have the strength and inspiration that comes from daily devotions at the family altar. Join this world wide company of those who use The Upper Room each day. Your loved ones and friends can join you—send them copies of the current issue or subscribe in their names.

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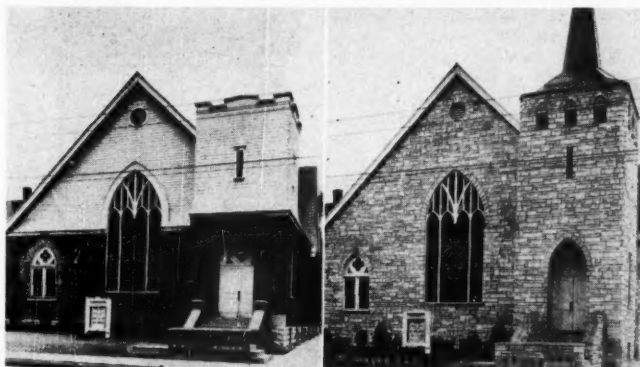
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visit the unchurched and invite them into the orbit of Christian fellowship and teaching, and to improve the ability of each church in the community through a careful study of its program under the guidance of a guest-leader for the purpose of making that church a vital Christian agency which shall not only reach the unchurched but win them to the Christ who is the Head of the Church.

In other places, the lay visitation program will be employed, whereby key lay people are trained to make personal calls upon people to win them for Christ. Preaching missions will be held in individual churches simultaneously, or in districts of the community on a cooperative basis. In community preaching missions the gospel message will be proclaimed not only in evening mass meetings, but in schools, colleges, parent-teacher associations, women's clubs, service clubs, ministerial associations, labor unions, over the radio and through the daily press. Teams of outstanding missionaries will visit communities under the auspices of the local ministerial associations or church councils, and literally bring the message of Christianity to the whole city in a few days' time. A minimum of 100 such missions



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will be held during the time of the Crusade. Already Dr. E. Stanley Jones has consented to stay in America to

carry on a whole series of such missions. Speakers from abroad who have consented to assist in this work are

Dr. T. Z. Koo of China, Dr. Bryan Greene from England, Bishop Stephen Neill of the World Council office in Geneva, Dr. Baez Camargo of Mexico and others.

Over fifty college and university campuses will be visited by teams of Christian leaders to present the claims of the gospel to students and faculty members. Every denominational college and university is requested to have a Religious Emphasis Week, which will not discuss religion, but proclaim Christ.

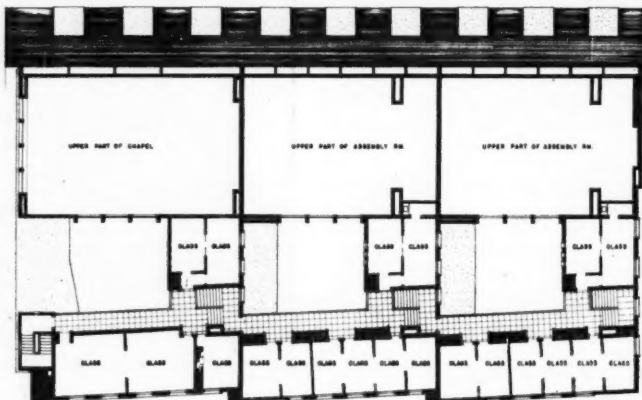
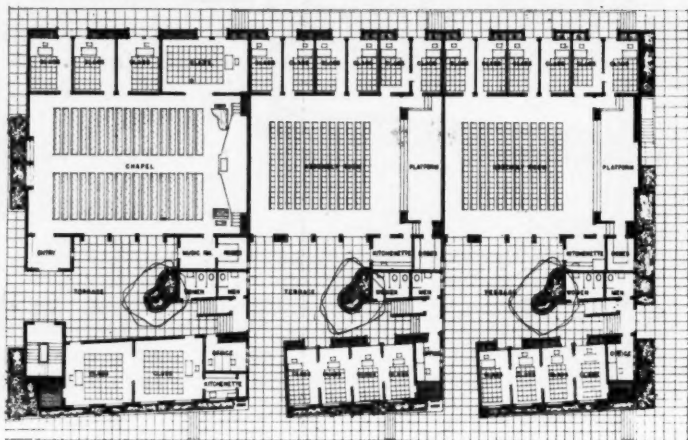
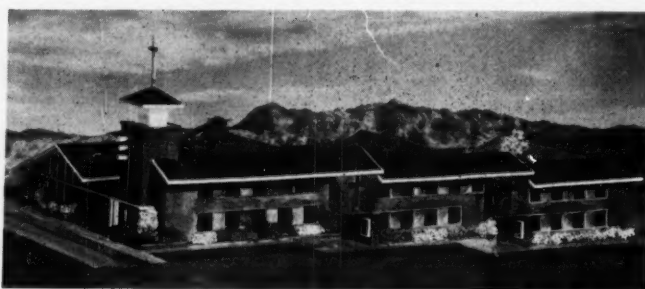
All Protestant churches are requested to observe Reformation Day, the last Sunday in October, to provide a community and vocational witness as to the nature and task of evangelical Protestantism. High school missions will be held in hundreds of high schools where such missions are possible. Ten-day cooperative evangelistic programs will be held in communities by which the unchurched are reached through the radio, through movie trailers, addresses in schools and colleges, jails, factories, clubs, and in street meetings. Christian evangelism takes the gospel to all men; it does not avoid any man whatever his class or status. Whatever the method, each community church council is asked to study its own evangelistic needs and decide what part of the Advance best fits into its program.

The Message of the Advance

The message of the Advance is nothing less or other than the whole gospel of Jesus Christ. The power of God is available to those who will receive it in faith, repent of their evil ways, and live and work in obedience to their Lord. Men may be redeemed and changed into the sons of God! The tide of events can be turned if individuals in large numbers will humble themselves before God and seek his will. The gospel is good news seen against the background of the bad news about men. The essence of the gospel is that God has acted on our behalf and that he has provided a way of salvation. This message we must proclaim not only with our lips, but we must witness to it in the power of the spirit, and demonstrate its power in individual and corporate life.

It is the duty of the whole church to proclaim the whole gospel to the whole world. The emergence of the ecumenical spirit in the churches is making the churches everywhere conscious of their world task of evangelism. The Lord of the church calls the whole church to witness to him, in worship, in word, in charity, and in fellowship. Only a world movement to-

(Turn to page 52)



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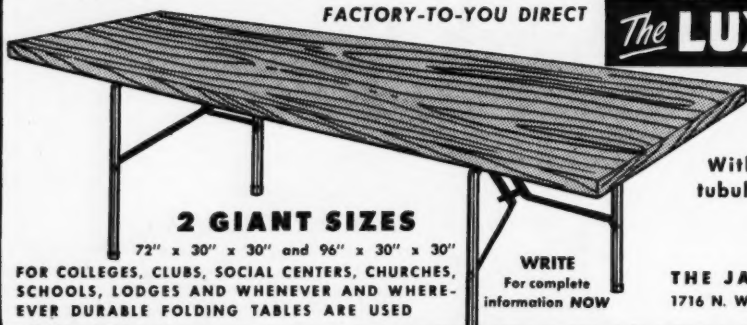
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The United Evangelistic Advance

(From page 50)

ward Christ can offer any hope for mankind, individually or socially.

The Resources of the Advance

But who is able unto these high things? The Advance must not only be steeped in prayer, but it must be an expression of prayer. Evangelism is, after all, intercessory prayer in action. It is doubtful whether we can evangelize anyone if we aim to do something with him for personal ends. True evangelism seeks to proclaim the gospel for Christ's and man's sake. The Advance must proceed on bended knee. Prayer "cells" ought to be formed in every church; they may well be organized denominationally. The Universal Week of Prayer, January 1-8, 1950, is dedicated to concerted prayer for the success of the gospel in local church and community. The World Day of Prayer, February 24, 1950, will provide another opportunity for united prayer in behalf of ourselves and our prodigal world. Protestant ministers are requested to remember each other in prayer every Saturday evening between eight and nine o'clock.

Is there spiritual vitality enough in the churches to give dynamic to this grand proposal called the United Evangelistic Advance?

Let a paragraph from the report of section II at Amsterdam give the answer:

It is not within the power of men alone to create a new evangelistic movement. The Holy Spirit is He who empowers, directs and works. In the past, He has from time to time quickened the Church with power from on high. Without His power, Christians are powerless. Without this Divine Presence in our hearts, we are inadequate and insufficient to undertake this blessed work of the evangelization of our nation. God does not wait for us to be perfect. He is willing and ready to use very imperfect instruments. What matters most is that the instruments should be

A Church Enters Social Service

by George Glover

"YOU'LL never know what you're getting into until you start," might well be the motto of John C. Leffler and Wilbur C. Woodhams, ministers of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in San Francisco. The statement was brought on by the fact that they have recently started a nursery school in the Church Cathedral building at Van Ness and Clay Streets in the City of the Golden Gate.

"We entered this social service work in a strange way. There used to be a nursery school near us, but they were evicted from their quarters. They couldn't find anything else suitable. We figured that the problem was ours partially, and we went to work. Our nursery school is the result.

"Our first consideration was quarters. We couldn't find any, so we have utilized the church proper. We didn't have an open yard, so we've built an indoor playground complete with swings and tricycle lanes. But, oh, the problems . . ."

Perhaps we are a little ahead of our story at this point, so it might be well to go back for a moment.

The members of Dr. Leffler's church are fairly young people. It is located in a semi-commercial district where large apartments predominate. Most of the residents in the area have small children of pre-school age. Prior to the available for His use. But He has given us the assurance that, "it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful," and that where that faithfulness is found, He is able "to do exceeding abundantly, above all that we ask or think."

closing of the local nursery school, Dr. Leffler and Rev. Woodhams had discussed opening an indoor playground for the tykes in the neighborhood. However, until the day that the neighborhood nursery school closed, the church nursery plans were merely in the planning stages.

Thus, pushed into a situation where a nursery school was now a community necessity, the two pastors went immediately to work. They managed to borrow, from the defunct school, some necessary equipment, and some professional advice necessary to getting the school operating. Three teachers also agreed to come over and take a hand with the first thirty children. Thus the St. Luke's Nursery School was started.

As most church endeavors are planned, it is non-profit, and non-sectarian. A small weekly fee is charged to help defray part of the cost of paying the teachers. The non-sectarian idea came direct from Dr. Leffler because, "I thought it ought to be."

"Religion plays a large part in the school, though," Dr. Leffler revealed. I have always felt that you couldn't teach anyone enough about religion in one hour, one day a week.

"An endowment of some kind is almost always essential in the establishment of a school," Dr. Leffler explains. "Our congregation, though, has been quite liberal. I suppose that a special school collection is the solution to securing school funds. There are so many people interested in children in our neighborhood, however, that I haven't had to worry about that part

of it, too much.

"We have found that mothers are very happy to have our facilities available to them. There is, within the parish, a public play yard. It is about three blocks from our church. However, it necessitates the children walking the distance, and the mother being there. We are working on arrangements to have help available at the playground so that the mothers can leave the children and call for them later. This is still to be worked out, but it will be."

Dr. Leffler's church social service planning could be worked out and used in any other district where such schools would come in handy. It is a very worthwhile endeavor, and brings the church quite close to the home.

From the observations of Dr. Leffler, the first consideration in starting any nursery school would be finding a location where the rent is nominal, and the facilities ample. If the church can provide the proper facilities so much the better. A parish hall, a basement, or a large yard where quonset huts can be erected might solve the location problem.

Money to equip the school will have to come from somewhere. Catholic churches have held bazaars, cake parties, and used group socials to solve their monetary problems. In San Jose, California, a church there recently used the fund box idea utilized by the Red Cross, and other fund drives, and placed cardboard containers in all business establishments. In a month they raised enough funds to carry a school program for a year—all voluntary contributions.

"It makes me feel young again," Dr. Leffler smilingly reveals, "to hear the sound of laughter and nursery songs through the church corridors. It's nice to be able to do things for children—because so much is returned to your own heart."

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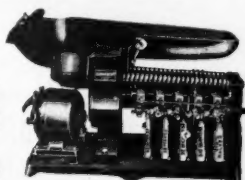
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Our Speaker Today Is...

by Elisabeth Logan Davis*

Where is there a minister's wife who has not suffered similar embarrassment? And, if we confess it, where will we find one who has not been guilty of this discourtesy toward the guest speaker?

I ADJUSTED my hat at the right angle, looked in the mirror to see that every strand of hair had that well-groomed look, gathered up my notes and rushed for a train. Two months ago there came to me an urgent invitation to address a Women's Association. It was just the opportunity I wanted for there were so many events which were turning the world upside down and the ones I had experienced in China as a missionary were crying out for expression. Instead of reading the morning paper while the slow local train carried me to the well-to-do suburb, I spent the hour and more reviewing my notes for I was determined to make the audience feel the greatness of our mission work even to the emptying of every pocketbook.

On arrival at the church house, the president greeted me cordially and placed me beside her at the artistically decorated luncheon table. "It was good of you to come to us and I am glad we have so many out and especially the younger women," said my hostess. I was then left much to my own thoughts for the conversation surged around me about the happenings in the parish—the new babies, the trials and sorrows of the members. World events were not mentioned nor communist Mao's comments on our race attitudes. No concern was expressed about the truth of his remarks.

The president interrupted the happy flow of conversation by announcing, "We'll now have the reading of the minutes." That made me feel less like a lonely onlooker for listening to min-

utes was a common experience like visiting a ten-cent store in a strange city. No detail was omitted from the dishes missing from the kitchen to requests to mend the choir gowns and serve a congregational dinner. The women's faces brightened at the conclusion but only for a moment for these were minutes of the executive board. The record of the previous all-day session must now be listened to with a wordy version of last month's address on juvenile delinquency. The minutes closed with the comment, "No action taken."

"Before we close the business session, shall we agree to mend the choir gowns?" briskly asked the president. Apparently no one heard the clock ticking away precious time as pros and cons flew through the audience. The restless program chairman finally had the idea of proposing that the matter be referred to a committee.

"Soon, soon it will be my turn to speak," I murmured to myself. But no, the program chairman had the floor and she had many things to tell them about programs in the future. I felt the impatience created by pre-views of coming movies. Uninspired devotions and hymns which were treated as a must were gotten over with when the group of young women stealthily arose to depart. The program chairman alarmed at the exodus said, "We are now ready for the speaker of the day and I am sorry that some of our audience have to leave." The president whispered to me, "They have young children and have to be home when

*Mrs. Chester, Rahway, New Jersey.

they arrive from school. You understand."

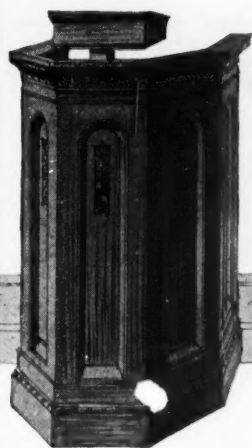
"Yes, yes," I replied. But those young women were the future missionary leaders and I craved the opportunity to have them think with me about race consciousness as it concerned China. The program chairman was saying, "Our speaker today is Mrs. Harcourt. She has travelled from New York to address us. In fact she has come all the way from China to inform us about our mission there." As I straightened up preparing to rise, my eye fell on an elderly woman in front of me, her head nodding in the warm afternoon sun streaming through the unventilated room. The president saw what I saw and whispered, "It is close in here but some are afraid of draughts." In spite of all these odds, I was determined to stab the audience with pain for the stunted tin workers in the dark mines, for the homeless children, for the old men and women without food and without hope.

Had I succeeded? Had these women so far removed from hardship and poverty and war been made through my words to sit where the oppressed sat, to stand where they stood? These questions haunted me as I rode back to New York. When I came into my home my husband greeted me with "How did the speech go?"

"I feel all frustrated," I exclaimed. "Only the tag-end of the meeting was left to me. And then when we had such a lengthy preliminary the younger women had to leave for the hour was late."

Mother who had been minding my three children laughed and said, "You will learn that's the way speakers are usually treated—business first and the honored guest last. I remember when I was in settlement work in Chicago, a young people's group invited me weeks ahead to address them on a certain Sunday evening. It was a long trip on the streetcar and when I arrived, to my chagrin, I found there was another speaker. She came first and took practically all of the time. The chairman said casually in introducing me, 'We are delighted to have Miss Lucas bring us a message from the North Street Settlement.' Then she looked at her watch, 'The minister expects us in for the evening service so we have only five minutes left.' A measly five minutes for an hour and a half travelling. That's why I began to write for magazines and refused all speaking engagements."

My husband chuckled as he told this story on himself. "As chairman of a large men's rally, I had persuaded the renowned Dr. S. to accept an invitation to address us. He was the drawing



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card we used to advertise the meeting. Other men were on the program and I further lengthened the time by making remarks between each. Maybe that's why I invited so many," he explained laughing at his naivete. "The hour was late and the audience weary, although I did not sense it, when with a flowery introduction I presented Dr. S. He looked carefully at his watch and replied, 'I live in Connecticut and I barely have time to catch the last train

out. I must say good-night for you, no doubt, have a long way to your homes, too.'

"No, no!" I remonstrated as I attempted to hold him by his sleeve. 'Please say a few words.' 'Sorry, sir, I can't miss my train,' he called as he stepped down off the platform."

"Perhaps we should draw up a set of rules and head it 'first things first,'" I continued. "I understand the service clubs run absolutely on time for busi-

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ness men have to be back at their offices. We are busy women and time is precious, too. Immediacies such as business, minutes and reports are secondary to the object of the meeting which is the address by an invited guest."

"It has occurred to me that not only the groups in the church," suggested my husband, "could profit by a rethinking of their set-up but the church service itself. Aren't you sometimes weary by the time the preacher has his sermon? In former days, the collection, the special music and the announcements came last in the order of service. In the interest of a more alert audience, it might be tried again."

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He Who Hath a Dream Possessed

*A Sermon by Jay K. Helms**

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.—Acts 4:13.

JESUS was the exponent of a great idea. His purpose was to redeem men from sin. This same idea was in the beginning with God. In this sense all great ideas are eternal. People come and go upon earth, but the ideas that use us live on. We should be careful, therefore, about the ideas that use us. The main characters in the drama of world history are more than people. They are the ideas that use people; right and wrong; love and hate; selfishness and selflessness. The tragic conflict goes on through endless ages. People are used on the good or evil side. What kind of ideas then are using you?

The central thing in the mind of God, with respect to people is their redemption. God through Christ would save us from our selfishness. Thus, he took on the flesh of man, humbled himself, became as man and dwelt among us. It is as we give ourselves to this great idea that we give meaning to our own existence. Peter and John were accounted unlearned and ignorant men by those who had undergone academic training. The incident of our scripture lesson is not at all uncommon. We are given to pronouncing the verdict of ignorance upon those who differ from us. This we do without serious consideration of the actual value of the ideas and ideals which are represented.

What we want to understand is that a great idea used these men. Peter and John were unlearned and ignorant men. They had had no formal schooling. They were fishermen. They knew how to catch fish, mend nets and boats. They knew where the fish ran. They could sail and do all the work of fishermen. But they lacked polish. They were rough spoken, ill-mannered men. Take away the idea that possessed them and they are numbered in the multitude of men who lived and died their lives, were interned and forgotten. But a great idea used these men. Indeed God used them! Because of a great idea Peter, the impulsive, audacious, quick spoken, is remembered as Saint Peter. Peter who cut the soldier's ear, who swore he would never deny Jesus and

then did, who dragged himself from the crucifixion scene, broken, dejected, dismayed, discouraged, to return, disillusioned to his nets; this same Peter is now thought of as the greatest of the disciples. Why? An idea used him. What kind of ideas are using you? Selfishness? Self-giving? The power of arms?

The power of arms; there is an idea we are in danger of accepting as valid. In a world recently freed from the danger of slavery by the power of arms we are still dangerously possessed by that idea. We should pray that we shall never be possessed by so foolish an idea. When all is said, the lives of naval and military men are wasted lives. Looking back through the pages of history one can hardly see the value of these efforts to build great armies and navies.

A few years ago August Von Mackensen died. He lived ninety-five years.



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He saw in its entirety the rise and fall of Germany from Bismark to Hitler. He actively participated in the Franco-Prussian war and World Wars I and II. His part in the last was mainly one of inspiration. He received all kinds of medals and decorations. As soldiers go he was a great soldier. He was possessed by the spirit of battle and the world would have been just as well off had he never lived.—Though I am the greatest military genius of all ages and have not Christ it is of no value wasted!

Every man then is possessed by some idea, be it great or small, be it God or Satan. We may be possessed by laziness or industry. We all have known men possessed by the idea of drunkenness. That dread disease gets a death grip on many who would otherwise be worthwhile people. Once they are taken possession of it is only the power of God that can release them. We all know people possessed by the idea of dominating others. Such people awed by their own importance feel that all must become subjected to their will. We all know people who are dominated by the idea of pleasure. Life for them becomes a merry-go-round. But whatever the idea may be we can realize that some idea is going to use us and therefore we should be willing to give our lives to the best we can find. Only the ideas of Christ are powerful enough to save us.

III

Peter, John and the other disciples were possessed by an idea of God and this idea produced great results. They met with prison, beatings, ridicule and the rest but because they were so possessed, Christianity marched its way throughout the Roman empire. Though they lost their lives for it yet the idea would not die. No, it made its way into the hearts of sincere seeking men everywhere. Ignatius, a prisoner, being marched to Rome and death, possessed with the spirit of Christ, talked incessantly to his guards until many of them became themselves followers of this same idea. Savanorola, the fiery preacher of Florence, condemned for heresy, made an undying impression on the people so that a bystander could say as he was consumed by the flames, "Surely this was the son of God."

Luther, moved to heroic words by an idea. John Huss, condemned in Prague, faithful to a great idea. John Wesley, moved by an idea, traveling the length and breadth of England. John Bunyan, confined to a prison cell, writes *Pilgrim's Progress*. He was possessed by a great idea of God.

When the pilgrims set sail from

Europe for America they were possessed by an idea. Breasting the icy surges of a wintry sea, they sought religious freedom. That idea spread throughout the American colonies until the shot was fired and heard around the world; freedom is better than slavery. Washington at Valley Forge knelt in prayer for a nation's life. When all seemed hopeless, and when many stout hearts had given up, Washington grasped his sword with a firmer clasp and went forth to battle for liberty and right and soon the haughty pride of the British monarch was broken and bowed before the sturdy strength of the colonial volunteers. America was born out of a great idea. The revolution was indeed the birth pangs of its new life. It was dedicated to the idea that all men are created free.

Lincoln was possessed by a great idea. He wanted to see enslaved men set free. No nation, he declared, could long exist half slave and half free. It was a tremendous struggle with brother set against brother, father against son. But a great idea produces great results and the oppressed were given liberty. Though many problems have developed out of that conflict yet we see the idea at work and slavery abolished.

Madame Curie, who twice received the Nobel prize, was possessed by a great idea. She was but a frail, sickly woman. She worked her own way through school causing her physical condition to be injured by her frugality. She spent hour after hour in the laboratory taking heart and giving courage to her less valiant husband when all seemed hopeless. She was driven by an idea. Radium must be found and made available to medical science. She would take no recompense for her discovery, save that people would find life more fully because she had discovered radium. Great ideas produce great results.

IV

Great ideas produce great results. Christ said that the kingdom of God was like leaven. He meant that great results are never sudden but rather that there is a long period of change through which the individual or the group must go. The idea we call Christianity has been growing for some two thousand years. Still, after all that time we are a minority group. We are still that leaven and like that leaven at work, a work which cannot be stopped.

Not with swords loud clashing
Nor roll of stirring drums,
Through deeds of love and mercy,
The heavenly kingdom comes.

In the church we talk much about



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conversion. There are many who think of it as a sudden transformation of character. A person accepts Christ as saviour and is saved from sin, all is suddenly changed. Paul, Augustine and John Wesley are pointed out as shining examples of this. But remember, Paul spent several years in Arabia before he was ready to preach the Gospel.

Before the good news could be effective for Augustine there needed to be more than the voice saying, "Take up and read." There was a mother's loving care, the preaching of Ambrose

and an earnest heart endlessly searching for the truth. There were years of longing and yearning for the voice to speak.

And before John Wesley had his "heart strangely warmed," there were years of bitter tears and heartbreaking prayer. There were his family, the Moravians and his friends, all of whom had a tremendous influence upon his life. Great ideas work like leaven. The change is effected slowly.

So also does evil or the ideas of evil possess one slowly, bit by bit. Sometimes married people dare to have af-

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fairs on the side which endanger the happiness of their home life. I read the other day of one such man who had an affair for eight years with a young girl. He jeopardized the happiness and peace of his wife and two children by having relations with another woman. Then when he decided he had done enough damage and attempted to break the affair off the girl shot him. Step by step he had gotten himself ensnared. Then when it was too late he tried to get loose. Ideas produce results of a like kind. Great ideas produce great results. Evil ideas produce evil results and both work slowly like leaven.

V

One step further this truth leads. The ideas that effect us have a far

reaching effect upon those with whom we come in contact. It is all but impossible to conceal one's true self from others. Conversation does not go far before we begin to form opinions one of another. We may start out with the weather but soon we get into deeper issues. People who develop lasting friendships must deal with the central and abiding issues of life.

Here and there we meet people whose life is given to God's idea of redemption. Such people often are annoying. We know it is important but are not yet ready to talk about it. There are other ideas which we would like to play around with for awhile yet in this life. It is true that Christ's idea has not yet gotten a hold upon us as it did upon his disciples. Hence, we

cannot develop friendliness toward such profound issues. We merely maintain a speaking acquaintance.

But still these people continue to effect our world. People possessed by Christ have a deep effect upon us. The idea that possesses Gordon Seagrave is effecting the people of Burma. Their life is being changed. Out of the war came many stories of the effect of Christ's idea upon natives in distant places.

VI

Back in April, 1934, Marie Peary Strafford, daughter of Admiral Robert E. Peary, spoke to the Boston Author's Club. She had just returned from Greenland where the Eskimos still call her "Snow Baby" for she had been born north of the Arctic circle. Her speech was to report on her latest visit to her birthplace, where she raised a monument to her father's memory on the spot where he started his last trek toward the pole.

As she spoke she said, "I am often asked if the adventure was worth the cost, or sometimes, 'What did I learn in Greenland to pay me for so much suffering?' By now I know the answer and give it in all sincerity; I learned from that adventure that there are still such things in the world as ideals and loyalties . . . loyalties to principles, or even persons, spirits that somehow go marching on after we think they have died.

"Let me explain," she said after a little pause. "When I got to Greenland I called at once on the Danish governor of the island. I told him I was Marie Peary Strafford, Admiral Peary's daughter, and that I wanted official permission to buy materials and hire workmen to raise a monument to my father's memory. He heard me through courteously and then said quite unexpectedly:

"You don't seem to understand this matter, Mrs. Strafford. It is not an affair of permissions, purchases and paid laborers. Money does talk; but it does not say everything, cannot say everything. You do not need to hire men to build that memorial. All you need to do is to announce that you are building a monument to your father's memory and Eskimos will come from all over Greenland to volunteer their services. They still remember the great white friend who went farther north than any other man has ever gone and who never once asked an Eskimo to do anything he himself could not do or was afraid to do. Their devotion to him and to his memory will build your monument."

"And it did," added Mrs. Strafford, "and that is the greatest thing I learned in Greenland."

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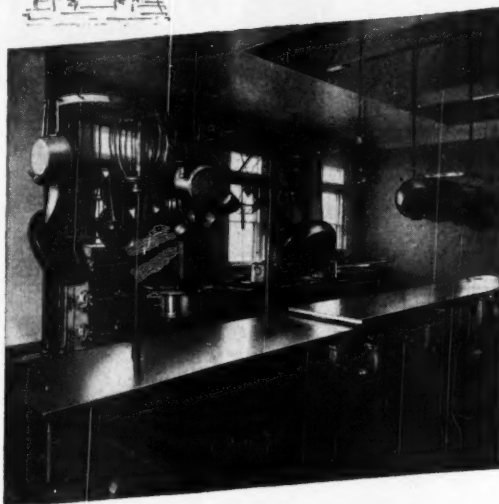
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The Roots of Preaching

Suggestions for Creative Preaching

by Harold F. Carr



Harold F. Carr

noting the changes which throw new light on Christian living. Why the change? What help is it in making God's will clear to us?

CHANGES are awakening. If we go back to the old home town to visit we look for the old landmarks. If we have any affection for the place we are interested in the changes, too.

The Revised Standard Version of the New Testament now has the stamp of approval by the people who use it. In its making it has the official help and approval of many denominations and their scholars.

It makes for good preaching to read straight through, noting the changes which throw new light on Christian living. Why the change? What help is it in making God's will clear to us?

REGARDING OUR READING

Most people like to read a book before they read the reviews. Others want to choose what they will read by scanning reviews first. Whether we read the reviews before or after they are a good way of studying the book, especially if we read several reviews.

The book supplements of *The New York Times* and *The New York Herald Tribune* do not cost much. They can be purchased in large book stores or taken by the year. Each week some book is featured and practically all books are mentioned or reviewed.

One of the first questions to ask about a reviewer is, "Who is he?" These book review sections know that. They give a description of the reviewer.

It is significant to see the choices of various editors for the feature book and to compare what reviewers say. There is something about the difference of opinion and judgment which makes each of us more willing to make a stand and utter an opinion for what it is worth.

Another method of choosing carefully what we should read is to ask some of the ministers and leaders in other professions what they read and what reviews they appreciate.

IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING

We've heard a great deal about not using our pastoral experiences in our preaching. It is true that we should not do our pastoral work from the pulpit. But there are some things which we can say in an impersonal way in a sermon which we could not say face to face—and for good purposes.

Some students were discussing a college president of whom they thought highly. "Some things come to us through his sermons and addresses that the personal contacts do not bring,"

said one of the more mature students.

We are supposed to practice what we preach but that doesn't mean that we should not preach something better than we are. It was said of grim Thomas Carlyle that he made himself hoarse yelling for silence. He would ask men whether they would be heroes or cowards. The Christian minister is asking people to be like Jesus and to accept the God of Jesus the Christ. There is something here in a higher realm than preaching and practice strictly defined. It is experience, exaltation and testimony.

Boasting is telling about what we can do. Testimony tells about what someone else has done for us. If we keep this difference in mind, our preaching will be a method which takes advantage of its setting in a service of worship. Clergy and laymen forget status and limitations the while and the sermon is the hope and aspiration of all.

WALKING WITH THE GREAT

*The World of Washington Irving** by Van Wyck Brooks is one of the best ways to comradeship with the early settlers in a pioneering responsibility for our country.

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PREACHING IN NOVEMBER

This is the time when all of us turn naturally to our traditions. We wonder what we should be grateful for and ponder what comes to mind when we are in the heights of thankfulness and praise. What better time to consider thoughtfully and deliver ourselves on the lessons of history?

We have to develop certain habits just to save time. If we had to stop every morning and think of which shoe to put on first and so on through the common activities we would have no mental energy left. There are likewise some things we have to settle in religion and count on the decisions. We can't be going back all of the time to rewrite the first chapters. Of course this does not mean that we can't and shouldn't write new chapters. "New occasions teach new duties," and also cause us to revise some previous decisions but we dare not spend too much time going back. Jesus once said, "Ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Dr. Luccock applies this to the preacher thus: "Among the many kinds of courage a preacher needs is the courage of the obvious, the courage to consider the truth that has become an axiom and thus grown befogged."

What are some of the conclusions of the early Christians which we should state in terms of our time? What were some of the accomplishments of the early Americans which would serve as a great inspiration now?

A BASIC IDEA

This is the vigorous time of the year. It is the season of doing things. "How to" sermons are fitting. We notice that Jesus did not wax theoretical when the disciples asked about prayer. He gave them a pattern prayer. He told them how to pray. He said, "After this manner . . ."

There is an old saying which is like most sayings in that it does not contain the whole truth. It does start us on a good track. "It doesn't matter what you say as much as how you say it."

If we say that Christianity has certain beliefs, makes specific demands and requires definite action we have stated a truth. But it is a truth without power and pull unless we illustrate and designate.

What do we consider the minimum beliefs? If we were in the place of the Chinese Christians and had to consider which beliefs, practices and testimonies we would not surrender even if required to die to preserve them, what would we list as essential? One Christian leader wrote recently that we need not fear that the Christians in China will throw away or lose anything but relatively unimportant baggage.

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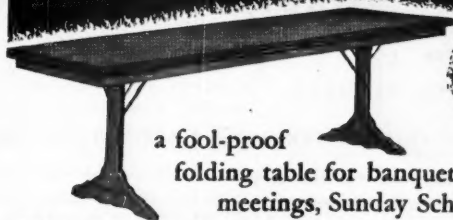
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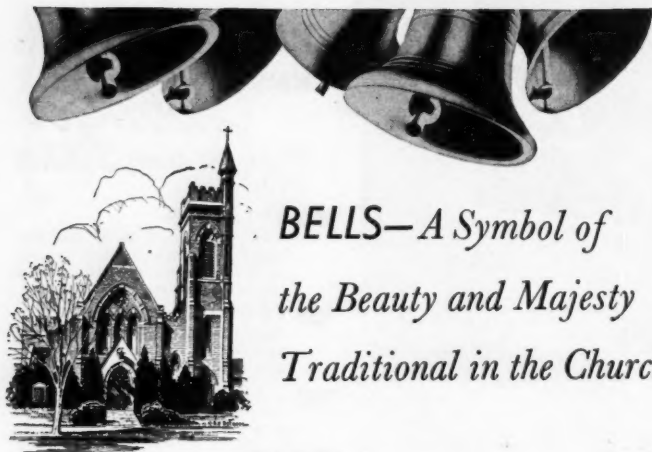


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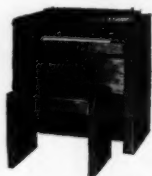
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A NEW LIGHT

Lead, Kindly Light† by Vincent Sheean is a best seller and a life of Gandhi. The sub-title is "Gandhi and the Way to Peace." One of the reviewers says that we must understand that there is a classical Buddhism and a Buddhism as the people use it. That alone is an idea worth pondering about other religions and ideas.

It will be interesting to compare portions of the book with *Mahatma Gandhi, An Interpretation*‡ by E. Stanley Jones.

Mr. Sheean implies that some of the methods of the great Indian leader might be used to free the world. The jacket supplied by Book-of-the-Month is one which helps the reader by supplying more information than ballyhoo.

The last pages of the book tell us that Gandhi loved two Christian hymns above all others and they are associated with his name in India. "Lead, Kindly Light" and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

†Random House.
‡Abingdon-Cokesbury.

Good Church House Cleaning

(From page 21)

men of a religious faith similar to the denomination of the church they are working on so they will have a sense of Christian fellowship and respect as the work proceeds. Of course this is not always possible but the contractor will at least see that men do not smoke when in a church or in other ways desecrate the religious edifice in which they work.

Thus by taking a little trouble to find a really good renovator you can have happy experiences even while the church house cleaning is in process.

It is understood, of course, that the minister will also have respect for the workmen who are laboring to make his church a more inspiring place for worship. Thus, minister and workmen, expert craftsmen and foremen, as well as members of the church who cooperate financially and otherwise all work together harmoniously to create a work of art and spiritual atmosphere in the church that will be inspiring and uplifting, fulfilling its purpose in the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.

Productive Pastures

by Hobart D. McKeenan

SERMON STARTERS

The Holy Eucharist

Text: John 6:32-36

OVER the significance of one Old Testament story, mistake is impossible. Our Lord not only identified it with one of the mysteries of his new covenant, but actually went out of his way to reconstruct the scene, so that the identification should be guaranteed to us. * * * Deliberately, he reconstructed the scene of the great miracle which was performed through Moses. Deliberately he led out his chosen followers, five thousand of them, not counting women and children, into the wilderness, and fed them miraculously there. Imagine how the minds of those people must have been stirred by the apparent coincidence. Here, surely, was a new Moses, the Founder of a new Covenant. What remained but to organize themselves into a new military invasion, which would drive the Romans out of Palestine as their ancestors had subdued the Canaanites; to set up a new Jewish domination of the country, like the domination set up by Josue? * * *

A. Let us consider first of all what points of agreement there are between the miracle which was wrought through Moses and the miracle which was wrought by our Lord, and see what light they throw on the doctrine of the Blessed Sacrament.

1. The action in either case has a corporate significance. Almighty God did not rain down manna on the wilderness promiscuously, as if to feed any chance wanderers who might need it. No, he let it fall among their tents, round about their habitation; just where the camp of Israel was and nowhere else. Every exclusion implies an inclusion; the manna, in defining the Israelites and separating them from their fellowmen, united them more surely together, gave them a corporate sense. They did all eat the same spiritual meat, says St. Paul: what a bond of unity!

In the same way, when our Lord multiplied loaves in the wilderness, he did not do it for the benefit of the casual passerby. Not in Galilee, not in Judaea, but in the country beyond Jordan, the wilderness into which he had led his most ardent followers, a kind of demonstration in force on the part of the infant Church. No envious Pharisee,

no prying enemy, can interfere here; this manifestation of the divine power is to be witnessed only by the elect, the initiated, * * * The Holy Eucharist is for Christ's faithful people, not for anybody else. Not for those, however excellent their dispositions, however honest their difficulties, who are not visibly united to the corporate body of Christ's faithful people. That is important to remember; but it is infinitely more important to remember that, by separating ourselves in this way from the rest of the world, we unite ourselves more closely to one another. * * *

2. The manna was the food of a pilgrimage; it was a daily need, a necessity, not a luxury. It began to fall immediately after the Exodus; it ceased when the children of Israel prepared to cross over Jordan. It must be gathered every morning; if not, it would corrupt, except on the eve of the Sabbath day, when it was possible to gather a double allowance. It was a free gift, but not a rare treat, such as we give to school-boys. Just in the same way, we are not to think of our Lord as feeding the five thousand merely as a demonstration of his power, He fed the multitude because the multitude needed it.

3. The supply of manna was exactly proportioned to the needs of those to whom it was given. The phrase used is rather a mysterious one. "The children of Israel gathered one more, another less. And they measured it by the measure of a gomor; neither had he more that had gathered more, nor did he find less that had provided less, but everyone had gathered according to what they were able to eat." * * * Each man had gathered exactly what was sufficient for his needs, however much or little he appeared to have taken up. * * * Each receives what each needs; that is the law of grace.

B. But it is well to observe that there are differences as well as resemblances.

1. First let us notice this—that the Israelites under the old dispensation brought nothing with them; God had to open the doors of heaven and rain down food on them. But under the new dispensation our Lord will take us into his partnership; there is so little we can give him, but still there is something, and he will use the little we have. We do bring bread and wine, like the boy with his loaves, offering so little to him who can make so much of it.

2. But he lets us do something more

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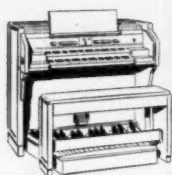
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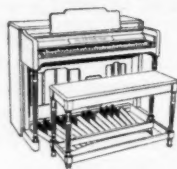
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wonderful than that. Here is a fresh difference between the wilderness and the lake-side—Moses did not give the people manna; he had no manna to give them. He could only await its coming, sudden, silent, in the darkness, unperceived as the dew; he was there to announce a miracle, not to assist in the performance of it. But in the Gospels it is different; "Give ye them to eat." * * * Moses was called the shepherd of God's people, and so were other rulers in old times; but they were shepherds only because they ruled, because they led the people to and fro, herded them like sheep. Translate that word "shepherd" into Latin, and see the gracious change that comes over it! The shepherd is merely one who guides, the pastor is one who feeds. And our Lord, seeing the multitudes as sheep without a shepherd, tells his apostles to feed them; associates them with himself in his favorite, his pastoral office. * * *

3. And one last difference—the manna which the Israelites gathered up must

be gathered in the morning; once the sun was up, it melted or corrupted as mysteriously as it had come. It was not so with the loaves in the wilderness, when all the multitude had been filled and sent on their way rejoicing, there was still something to be done—gather up the fragments that remain: a trophy, a souvenir, to remind them of the day's adventure. * * * There is memory and fragrance still to be gathered in the sanctuary, though it is toward evening and the day is far spent.—Adapted from *Retreats for Priests*, by Ronald Knox; Sheed and Ward

POETIC WINDOWS

Praise

Praise is a quiet and gracious thing,
Like buds slow-forming where the
woods are bare,
A silent recognition of the spring
Waiting to break upon the tremulous
air.

Praise is a pillow to the tired head,
A lamp to light the traveler on his
way;

It is the generous sacrament of bread
Shared between strangers at the close
of day.

Swift is the word of praise to soothe
the smart
Of old defeats, to light the troubled
face,
Sweeter, oh, sweeter to the thirsty heart
Than streams of water in a desert place.
—R. H. Grenville

Sanctuary

Let us put by some hours of every day
For holy things—whether it be when
dawn
Peers through the window pane, or
when noon
Flames, like a burnished topaz, in the
vault,
Or when the thrush pours in the ear
of eve
Its plaintive melody; some little hour
Wherein to hold rapt converse with the
soul,
From sordidness and self a sanctuary,
Swept by the winnowings of unseen
things,
And touched by the White Light ineff-
able!—Clinton Scollard

Begin the Day With God

Every morning lean thine arms awhile
Upon the window-sill of heaven
And gaze upon thy Lord,
Then, with the vision in thy heart,
Turn strong to meet thy day.

—Author Unknown

A Prayer for Unity

Gather us in, thou love that fillest all;
Gather our rival faiths within thy fold.
Render each man's temple-veil and bid
it fall,

That we may know that thou hast
been of old:

Gather us in.

Gather us in: we worship only thee;
In varied names we stretch a com-
mon hand;
In diverse forms a common soul we see;
In many ships we seek one spirit-
land;

Gather us in.

Each sees one color of thy rainbow
light,
Each looks upon one tint and calls it
heaven;
Thou art the fullness of our partial
sight
We are not perfect till we find the
seven;
Gather us in.

Thine is the mystic life great India
craves,
Thine is the Parsee's sin-destroying
beam,
Thine is the Buddhist's rest from toss-
ing waves,
Thine is the empire of vast China's
dream:
Gather us in.

Thine is the Roman's strength without
his pride,
Thine is the Greek's glad world with-
out its graves,
Thine is Judea's law with love beside
The truth that censures and the grace
that saves;
Gather us in.

Some seek a Father in the heaven
above,

Some ask a human image to adore,
Some crave a Spirit vast as life and love:

Within thy mansions we have all and more;

Gather us in.

—George Matheson

Living for Others

Lord, let me live from day to day
In such a self-forgetful way
That even when I kneel to pray
My prayers will be for Others.

Help me in all the work I do
To ever be sincere and true
And know that all I do for You
Must needs be done for Others.

Let Self be crucified and slain
And buried deep, and all in vain
May efforts be to rise again
Unless we live for Others.

And when my work on earth is done
And my new work in heaven begun
May I forget the crown I've won
While thinking still of Others.

Others, Lord, yes others

Let this my motto be;

Help me to live for Others

That I may live like Thee.

—Charles D. Meigs

Requiem for a Modern Croesus

To him the moon was a silver dollar,
spun
Into the sky by some mysterious hand;
the

sun
Was a gleaming golden coin —

His to purloin;

The freshly minted stars were dimes
of delight

Flung out upon the counter of the
night.

In yonder room he lies

With pennies on his eyes.

—Lew Sarrett

SELECTED PROSE

Out of the Snows the Spires Grew

This night the expositor made reference to a sermon in stone, and his speech seemed to be set to a proud music. I sat spellbound as he talked gloriously about the Cathedral of Salisbury, which rises from the plains like the prayers and aspirations of mortal hearts striving to seize hold of heaven. It is an excelsior sung in carven stone, a poem the builders uttered for the centuries to hear, and, hearing, to stoop in reverence there. * * * Faith, hope, love, these three abide in beauty in that lofty spire. It is the psalm of the builders.

And he proceeded to tell us how spires came to be. I never shall look upon them now without remembering their history, and when each morning I set out for the city I shall carry with me the parable enshrined within the church on Harrow's hill, and it shall be to my consoling. "In Egypt," said the speaker, "the roofs of the temples could be flat, for they had little to fear from the weather. In Rome, the roofs were given a gentle slope, so that the rain



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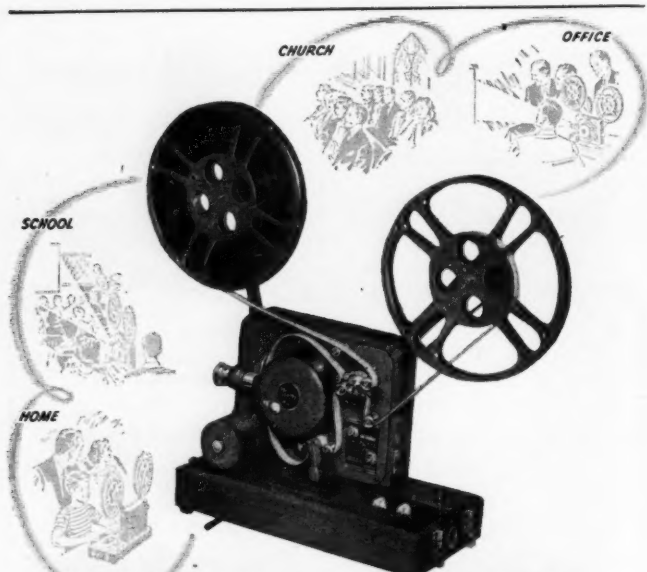
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might flow to the eaves. But when the builders came to build in countries beyond the snow-line, they had to give a steeper slope to the roof to throw off the weight of the snow. And it came to pass that from the steepness of the roof the idea of the spire emerged. Architecture turned the snow-flake into a spire, and the winter's story was translated, if I may express it thus, into the song of Salisbury. So did a stern necessity unfold into an ornament of beauty. Out of the snows the spires grew."

Here the expositor paused, but not before he had given eyes and wings to our hearts and minds. For my part I shall henceforth look upon the spire as

the symbol of life, a sunlit point and pinnacle of poetry, whether that spire seeks the sky from out the dust and tumult of London city or in quiet meditation points a finger heavenwards from the still valley of Arcadia. It shall express for me the transfiguring of sorrow and difficulty until in loveliness they stand upon the earth, a note of music captured from the voice of the storm. * * * But for the snowdrifts the spires might never have climbed to the sun. The early Christian builders changed the pitiless snow into a triumph-song. At this moment as I write I seem to hear the voices which sounded over Patmos: "These are they which came out of great tribulation," and I

muse upon the truth that the Apostle, sequestered in that lonely island, turned his exile into an apocalypse, his sufferings into a spire whereon gleams a golden light from the Jerusalem which is on high. * * *

For the miracle of the Messiah's coming into the lives of men is to translate the bitterness of sorrow into beauty for his temple, as in Cana of Galilee he changed the water into wine. And so the builders of the cathedrals which tell forth his glory sought to do their work in the spirit of the Great Transmuter whose touch and ministry make the spires to grow from the paths of winter.

Most moving and most beautiful, too, is the story of Savonarola when the fury of the fickle Florentines turned against him. He was flung into prison, but behold the metamorphosis of faith that glowed within did bring to pass in that place. The damp prison floor became a lighted altar, and there he began his meditations on the thirty-first and fifty-first Psalms. "Hope," he writes, "shall lead the forces of Heaven; Hope shall march against Sorrow, and overcome her. Hear what the prophet hath said: 'For thou, Lord, art my hope; thou set thine house of defence very high.'" I see a great and glorious spire arise from the darkness of Savonarola's dungeon. I see it like a point of flame burning with the fires of sunrise. Bowed at the feet of the Lord, my eyes bathed with tears, I cried: "The Lord is my light and my salvation." The spire is there and out of the snows it grew.

The sorrows that come and the difficulties which beat upon us like the sting and smart of the wintry wind; suppose that out of them we build our spires? God helping us, it can be done. —Arranged from *The Sieve of Blindness*, by Sidney Walton; Epworth Press, London

Beatrice

"* * * All that we know of this story we derive from Dante, and the story he tells us is a love-story. One apologizes for harking back to such baldly obvious facts, but it is really necessary, since so many people forget them. If the X specified as Beatrice is a clerical vocation, and active intellect, an emperor of Joachimite spiritualism, it is hard to understand how an artist can have found the accents of Dante to sing of the passion with which such objects could inspire him. Whatever may be the truth on this point, the fact remains that Dante tells us that he loved a woman and found in his love for that woman the source of his song. * * * His love for Beatrice forms in Dante's life a sort of emotional order complete in itself, self-sufficient and containing

within it all the elements required not only for its existence, but for its justification.

*** We will not enter here into the labyrinths of the psychology of genius: those without genius have nothing to say of it and those who have it generally have other things to do than to speak of it. Yet we are not rising above the level of the most elementary observation in saying that there are artists whose inspiration requires incentives of this kind and that lyrical poets are generally among them. *** That Beatrice, a real woman, was to the poet that was Dante this inexhaustible source of profound and stimulating emotion; that she enjoyed this singular privilege—which often astonishes the very women who possess it and sometimes embarrasses them—of liberating in him the flood of lyrical inspiration, is what Dante himself says in every chapter and almost on every page of the *Vita Nuova*.—Etienne Gilson in *Dante the Philosopher*.

BOOKISH BREVITIES

It must be confessed that the mid-summer season has shown a dearth in the publication of significant religious books. At any rate this has been true in the United States. Sectarian publications aside, I have found few new books of sufficient value to merit consideration in this department; but those I have found, all by foreign authors—Canadian, English and French—are of outstanding significance.

To begin with there is *England's Churches*, a study of their rise and witness, by H. A. L. Jefferson. This book, written for the thoughtful and interested layman and not for the professional historian, is a remarkably lucid interpretation of the genius, spirit and polity of seven of Britain's larger communions. Included are the Anglicans, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Baptists, Methodists, Unitarians and the Society of Friends. The author who knows his history and his theology well tells us what these denominations are and how they got that way. But he does more than this. With cumulative evidence, keen insight and catholic appreciation he pictures the potent possibilities of a great Church for tomorrow (Rockliff, Salisbury Square, London; 10/6) *** *Understanding Ourselves* by Mary Macaulay, is a wise and winsome book in which a distinguished psychologist interprets to us many of the mysteries of life and helps to see and solve the problems arising from within those mysteries. With great skill and a high sense of Christian values Mary Macaulay points a way of applying rich intuitive intelligence to life as it is lived from day to day—

(Turn to page 70)

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Equipment for the Church Kitchen

Read This in Connection With the Article on Another Page
Planning the Church Kitchen

by L. J. Reutlinger*

BECAUSE of the tremendous variety of kitchen requirements and the space available for kitchen construction, each church kitchen presents special problems which demand individual solution. The following remarks, however, may prove helpful in determining the general requirements for an efficient kitchen in your church. Perhaps the only general rule that can be applied is: consult with a kitchen equipment dealer or manufacturer who offers a kitchen planning service.

Seating space in the average community house ranges from 250 to 300 and covers an area of about 2500 to 3000 square feet. Kitchen area should equal thirty per cent of the service space, in this instance from 750 to 800 square feet. Generous kitchen space avoids irritating and time-wasting confusion, makes prompt service easier. Spaciousness is a special boon to the ladies of the church accustomed to working in their own domestic kitchens.

Meal service is usually "table style" with members of church groups serving as waiters. Careful planning, however, may permit the use of the cafeteria type of installation. This results in less work for those serving the meals and lends an informal air that is often desirable. However, unless the church dining rooms are used for that purpose alone, cafeteria installations frequently are not compatible with the overall plan for multiple use of social rooms.

As to equipment, it is recommended that where finances permit, the best quality equipment be purchased. It operates better, is easier to clean and will last much longer, even with expert care. Stainless steel dish tables, steam table and preparation tables are desirable. Standard type of heavy duty ranges are recommended—they are available for gas or electric heat. Plan on mechanical refrigeration. It assures better operation and economy. A coffee and hot water urn reduce the possibility of accidents. Place urns on a stand, with space below for cups and saucers. All equipment must be constructed so it can be cleaned easily. Check local sanitation codes.

Because of the great amount of work

*Manager, Engineering Department, Albert Pick Co., Inc.

involved in operating a kitchen, it is suggested that due consideration be given to time and labor saving devices. A dishwashing machine with stainless steel tables will make it easy to comply with sanitary standards. Consider a vegetable peeler, also a mixing machine, where the kitchen is used quite regularly. To do this work manually becomes drudgery and makes the work of church organizations more difficult. Have plenty of shelves and cabinets for storage of dishes, cooking utensils and proper handling of kitchen materials. This part of the kitchen can be locally installed at reasonable cost.

Frequently church kitchens are out-fitted like the home kitchen. This may be all right for small groups but is not recommended when fifty or more are to be served. Here are a few simple hints:

1. Be sure to have ample kitchen space even though it means reducing dining space. Good service is mandatory.
2. Have plenty of storage space so all cooking utensils, china, silver, etc., is out of the way and covered when not in service.
3. Have the kitchen properly lighted and ventilated. This need not be expensive.
4. Have plenty of hot water—sanitary experts require it.
5. Consult a kitchen equipment dealer early in your planning. It will save you time and money.

Bookish Brevities

(From page 69)

from the cradle to the grave. Fertile in relation to preaching and teaching, but above all in relation to the work of the pastor as consultant, this book will prove a blessing to every minister (Routledge & Kegan Paul, Ltd., London; 7/6) * * * One of the most profound and seminal books of the season—a book of immediate and lasting importance to any man who would make the most of the best of mediaeval thought and thus understand trends and tendencies in the thought of his own age—is *Dante the Philosopher*, by the eminent French philosopher, Etienne Gilson. Few living men are so eminently equipped to analyze and the

greatest of the Christian poets—"the voice of ten silent centuries"—as the great Florentine has been understandably and yet inaccurately called. Gilson does not seek to put the genius of Dante into any particular school or category but, by a careful study of the poet's own words, he seeks to reveal his thought and the meaning of his symbols and allusions. Dante, like Shakespeare, was a universal poet, and yet it is interesting to note that, potentially—as over against St. Thomas, for example—Dante was a forerunner of Evangelical religion. This is not a book for the mentally hazy or lazy reader, but it is a book from which all manner of good things will come to the man who has the wit and will and wisdom to make its message his own (Sheed & Ward; \$4) * * * *The Wisdom of Catholicism*, by Anton C. Pegis, president of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto, represents an almost ideal anthology of the best that has been written within the Latin Church. It is unfortunate, of course, that the old error of equating what is Latin with what is Catholic should again be presented to us in an anthology, however fine. Nevertheless, with rare erudition and discrimination, Pegis has made all of us his debtors as, in nearly a thousand golden pages, he assembles the fruits of twenty centuries of Christian wisdom—from the early Fathers to men like Christopher Dawson and Jacques Maritain. This book is an honor both to the editor and to the publisher and I pray for it the widest possible reading (Random House; \$6).

Marble Belongs to the Church

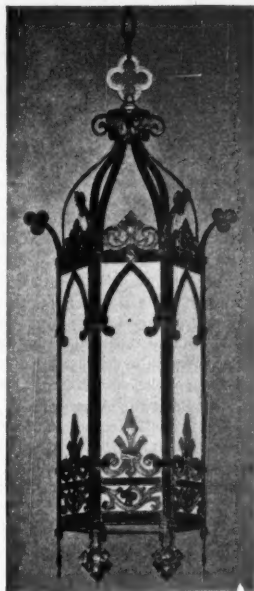
(From page 26)

wide range of richly colored marbles suitable for highly decorative work, of which Oriental, Jasper, Pavonazzo, Striped Brocaddillo, Westland Cippolino, Westland Green, Veined Cream and Metawee are only a few.

Also among the Vermont marbles there are many grades of white, that is, marbles in which the background is white though there may be considerable veining and clouding. Among these white marbles there is a certain portion so free of color, so nearly pure white as to make it eminently suitable for all the purposes for which such marbles are desired.

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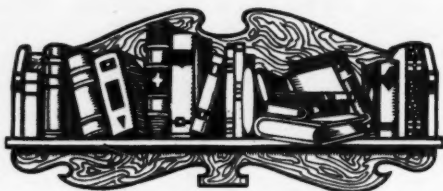
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NEW



BOOKS

Christianity

Christianity and Civilization by Emil Brunner. Charles Scribner's Sons. 184 pages. \$2.50.

Emil Brunner is one of the outstanding religious thinkers of our time. He is a leading representative of Continental neo-orthodox theology of the Calvinistic type. This volume, called *First Part: Foundations*, comprises the first section of his Gifford Lectures delivered at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, in 1947. It is an attempt to state a Christian doctrine of the foundations of civilization, for it is the author's firm belief that "only Christianity is capable of furnishing the basis of a civilization which can rightly be described as human." It is his contention that totalitarianism with all the suffering it has brought to the world might have been avoided had such a doctrine been firmly set forth previous to 1917. It is this feeling of inescapable urgency which has prompted him to hasten the publication of this first series of lectures.

Christian spiritual forces and values no longer determine the face and character of the Western world. The soldier, the engineer, and the man of political power have replaced the scholar, the artist, the seer and the saint. They are building an outward technical civilization with little concern for spiritual forces. The dignity of man and the rights of man have been lost in the flood of naturalistic philosophy which conceives of man simply as a cerebral animal. What has the gospel of the New Testament, understood within the tradition of Reformation theology, to say about the problem of being, truth, time, meaning, justice, freedom, creativity, the place of man in the universe, and personality and humanity?

This theology contends that God is the primary reality, a God who is Spirit and Creator. The word of God is truth and is to be known not by the acceptance of doctrines, but by a divine-human encounter. God creates time for man, but cerebral man thinks that death ends all and he must get everything done before death. The idea of universal progress is irreconcilable with Christian faith. Moral evil is not a reversion to the primitive and the development of intelligence and technical skill does not guarantee progress in the direction of the truly human. Meaning is found in the divine reason, imminent in our reason and in our reasonable doing and thinking. It is easy for cerebral man to suspect that life has no meaning at all in the face of two devastating wars in this century and the possibility that civiliza-

RELIGIOUS ENCYCLOPEDIA TO BE REISSUED AND MODERNIZED

A news item of more than ordinary interest reaches us from Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Baker Book House, publishers of religious books, announces that it has secured exclusive rights from Funk and Wagnalls for a reprint edition of the *New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*.

The New Schaff-Herzog is the only encyclopedia of its kind. It is based on the internationally known German "Realencyklopadie" founded by J. J. Herzog and edited by Albert Hauck. The English edition was prepared under the guiding mind of the famous church historian, Philip Schaff. This encyclopedia not only includes Bible knowledge, but embraces every phase of religious knowledge from the beginning of history. It has long been recognized as the standard religious encyclopedia for libraries, seminaries, Bible schools and colleges, and Bible scholars everywhere.

The new edition will be more than a routine reprint. The thirteen volumes of the original set have been completely re-designed for serviceability, appearance, and convenience. One or two supplementary volumes, in similar form and binding, will bring the set completely up to date.

The first volume of this New Schaff-Herzog will appear in November. A book-a-month schedule has been prepared to facilitate the purchase of this set by the buyer of moderate means.

tion may be extinguished in the third, but the Christian finds meaning in his faith.

Man finds his true place in the universe only in relation to God and a Christian relation to his fellowmen. Marx and Nietzsche dehumanize man. Christ gives man personality. We need to return to the Christian conception of justice in which personal life is the supreme value and is to be defended against all totalitarian collectivist encroachments. A man can have inner freedom when he is outwardly constrained. Man finds true freedom only in dependence on God. The tragic error of modern humanity has been to seek a freedom outside of and in independence of God. Man's creative ability unless it is subordinated to God's will

creates chaos. If we will not be ruled by God, we will be ruled by tyrants in the modern, collectivist, totalitarian states. When the state, combined with pan-economism and technocracy, usurps the rights of all, it is easy for man to elevate himself to the place of God. Such a man will trample down and devour humanity. "And the totalitarian state is the most urgent problem of our civilization at this present hour." If we continue this road of the modern age, the road of emancipation from the Christian church, we shall efface anything truly human. The way back is to return to the source of justice, truth and love, the Christian God, in whom only lies the power of salvation.

H. W. H.

Secular Illusion or Christian Realism? by D. R. Davies. Macmillan Company, New York. 111 pages. \$2.00.

Here is a tract for our times which is thoroughly clear and uncompromising. Written with a strong conviction that we need a direct assault upon the bland humanism of our generation, Dr. Davies gives us an essay which is forged out of our own struggle with the problem. A former Congregationalist and coal-miner the author was educated at Edinburgh University and United College, Bradford, Yorkshire. In 1941 he entered the Church of England and was ordained Deacon and Priest by Archbishop Temple at Yorkminster, who wrote a foreword to this book shortly before his death.

The thesis of this book is that to trust in the goodness of human nature is a false interpretation of Christianity. In his introduction Dr. Davies points out that C. J. Cadoux's *Christian Pacifism Re-Examined* is an example of wrong view of love and of sin. To the author religious sentimentalism is a puzzle for as he declares those who understand the thought and spirit of the Bible cannot find any basis for it there. The challenge of our times is to discover man's place in history. This cannot be done by refusing to regard "Christianity as a religion of tragedy." A Christian, Dr. Davies insists, "must be a ruthless realist; for man is a poisoned reed. He is a creature to be overcome. Christianity indulges in no rosy day-dreams of man's career in this world." The author's six chapters analyze the problems of war, Christian experience, doctrine of original sin, and the church relationship to the world. "The only radical solution," as the author calls it for the Christian realist, is that he should realize the supremacy of his own will is the root of all sin. He should abandon it and submit to the will of God. The whole process can be done through the church which is

the only means of bringing about this "radical solution."

This is a challenging book. In spite of intellectual sarcasm which appears in some parts, the author presents his case with such clarity and force that the reader has no doubt in his mind what is being emphasized. There is an appendix with questions for study groups.

W. L. L.

Religion and Culture by Christopher Dawson. Sheed and Ward. 225 pages. \$3.50.

The Gifford Lectures for 1947 present in a scholarly but readable style the thesis that "Religion is the key to history . . . The social way of life is founded on a religious law of life."

In demonstration of his thesis the author lays special emphasis on the prophetic society (as in Islam), the priestly society (as in Hinduism), and the king-centered society (as in ancient Egypt), and the effect of religion on social culture is further illustrated by chapters on Sacred Science (ancient and modern mysteries), Sacred Law (Confucianism), and the Way of Perfection (Buddhism). It is interesting to note the author's opinion that "Chinese civilization seems to have solved certain fundamental problems of the social and moral order more successfully than any other known culture."

Dr. Dawson's conclusion is that "the events of the last few years portend either the end of human society or a turning point in it." For the first time in all history "we have a secularized scientific culture which is a body without a soul, while on the other hand religion maintains its separate existence as a spirit without a body. . . . The recovery of moral culture and the return to spiritual order have now become the indispensable conditions of human survival."

The book closes, however, without any suggestion as to how the spiritual values are to be regained.

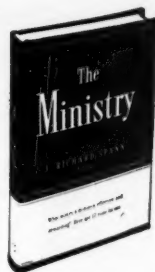
L. G. L.

France Pagan? by Maisie Ward. Sheed and Ward. 243 pages. \$3.00.

We approached this book without great amount of enthusiasm. But our pre-judgment was wrong and it proved to be too interesting to lay aside. Outwardly the subject is not too attractive to an American Protestant clergyman; the story of the life and work of a French priest. But Henri Godin was no ordinary priest. He heard the call of an apostolate to the great mass of pagan proletarians of his native land. He had the usual conflicts of a pioneer with his ecclesiastical superiors but won out in his demand for an opportunity to serve the dispossessed. His life is the story of modern martyrdom, pouring himself out in service by day and night and finally meeting death as a direct result of his slum living conditions at the age of thirty-eight.

Following the sixty-four pages of biography the remainder of the book is devoted to a condensed translation of Abbe Godin's most famous book, "France, a Missionary Nation?" plus excerpts from other of his writings. This is intensely interesting as a revelation of the moral and social conditions of the proletariat in French cities. These people are not responding to the ordinary appeal of the churches, in fact most of them are avowedly pagan. Efforts to win them to the fel-

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lowship of the bourgeois churches end in failure. It was the conviction and experience of Father Godin and his associates that the mission to the proletariat is one requiring special organization and separate parish churches.

The reader cannot help but think of similar conditions in America, although the class lines are not drawn so tightly here and pagan immortality and thought have not penetrated so deeply into our culture. While the Protestant reader will question some of the approaches and solutions offered he will be rewarded by the reading of this volume as he gains a more intimate knowledge of life in France and also is inspired by the sacrificial life of the heroic Abbe Godin.

C. W. B.

The Holy Imperative: the Power of God and the Good Life by Winston L. King. Harper & Brothers. 224 pages. \$2.50.

The new dean of chapel and associate professor of philosophy and religion at Grinnell College, Iowa, makes his debut in this discussion of the faith and ethic of the Christian religion. His contention is that, contrary to contemporary thinking, the Christian Way is a life, and throws down the gauntlet in his opening sentence: "Neither religion nor morality can be considered apart from each other historically or practically." He traces "four main currents of ethical interest which continue" from Hobbes, Berkeley, Kant, and Comte respectively to our day and sums his first chapter by

making religion provide the "motivation for the moral life" and ethics the critique to prevent religion from lapsing into superstition.

"Religion and Morality" leads into discussion of "Morality in a Religious Context" and the inevitable principle of polarity "occasioned by the inherent tension of the religious attitude": priest and prophet, pulpit and pew, orthodox and heretic; "because God is both great and good." The dichotomy-ellipse philosophy is expanded in the chapters following: "The Religious Apprehension of Moral Values" and "Christianity as Religion and Ethic," until the author's mind wheels out this finale: "What is metaphysically real defines the scale of moral devotion and adds its urgency and a solidity to the fragile attraction of the pure ideal; the experience of actual personal fellowship with God transforms ethical principle into joyous obedience to divine commandment."

Not that the *Holy Imperative* is entirely in that style. Professor King uses many striking metaphors, as when he sees Aldous Huxley's faith having the "quality of sewing a fine seam of spiritual aloofness from worldly concerns," R. B. Perry's *General Theory of Value* constituting a "gravity-controlled hierarchy of satisfactions," and sectaries like "Peter Waldo, John Huss, the Jansenists, Luther, the Wesleys, and the Separatists—who doglike must carry away their bones of new truth to the safe cover of a special fellowship." "The Christian Good" and the three chapters following have real preaching values.

Against Barth's *Wholly Other* Dr. King posits a God who is "the Holy Other." Against the oriental, worship "is humility before the eternal but not self-destruction." Against some mystics, worship is "the communion of prayer, rather than the union of trance." Against the "sacramental individualism of" the Roman Catholic Church he shows Protestant participation in common worship as recognizing the secular as life to be "redeemed to moral worth."

As a refresher course in the philosophy of religion Professor King's book will stir every reader of this review. And then you will want a preachers' meeting on it.

D. B. H.

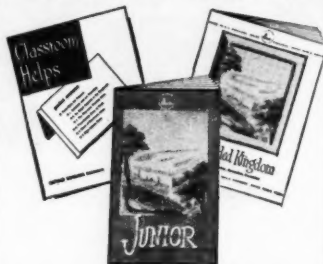
Humanism

Humanism as a Philosophy by Corliss Lamont. Philosophical Library. 369 pages. \$3.75.

Here is a lucid, persuasive presentation of the philosophy of naturalistic humanism. Written as a "philosopher's testament," this volume sets forth the history of the humanist idea and tradition from ancient times to the present and interprets the significance of this movement in the life of today.

In the opening chapter, contemporary humanism is defined as "a philosophy of joyous service for the greater good of all humanity in this natural world and according to the methods of reason and democracy." It rests on a naturalistic and materialistic metaphysics, rigorous scientific method, a "this-earthly" morality, and the assumption that man has the power and potentiality of solving his problems successfully. Service of mankind is re-

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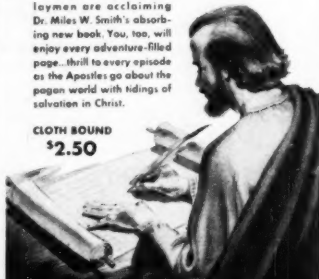
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garded as the ultimate moral ideal.

The philosophical, religious and cultural backgrounds of the humanist tradition are analyzed in the second chapter. This author praises Lucretius, finds the Song of Solomon and the Book of Ecclesiastes two of the greatest humanist writings in literature, regards Jesus as one of the supreme personalities of history, but asserts that New Testament theology is "totally alien to the humanist viewpoint."

As one might expect, Dr. Lamont vigorously opposes any kind of supernaturalism and devotes a chapter to the theme, *This Life Is All and Enough*. He dismisses Kant's argument for immortality as "far-fetched wish-fulfilment," disposes of the philosophy of Whitehead in two sentences, and conveniently evades the problem of how to account for life and man on the basis of mere chance and materialism by asserting that matter "possesses the potentiality of eventuating in organisms that think." He dogmatically asserts that there is no place for either immortality or God "in the accepted meanings of these terms." Nature is regarded as neutral or indifferent to human values, but not hostile or alien.

But this writer is no mere iconoclast. The main emphasis of the book is on the positive and constructive values of this philosophy. There is much of value in a discussion of twelve types of democracy found in the closing chapter, "The Affirmation of Life." The author concludes in regarding man "as no longer the darling of the universe or even of this earth," but as standing out "as a far more heroic figure than in any of the supernaturalist creeds."

While many will disagree with the assumptions and conclusions of this volume, the work merits careful study because it sets forth in a cogent manner a popular, secularist philosophy that must be taken into account by Christian theists. Dr. Lamont is the author of several books and has taught at Columbia, Cornell and Harvard.

J. C. P.

The Bible

The Psalms by Elmer A. Leslie. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press. 448 pages. \$5.00.

"Translated and interpreted in the light of Hebrew life and worship" says the sub-title, this volume will make the Psalms live for many readers. Dr. Leslie, professor of Old Testament in Boston University School of Theology, out of years of research and of teaching, arranges the various psalms according to their common themes, and presents his own translations. Then he carefully interprets each one as to the time of its actual writing, its usage by the ancient Hebrews, its relationship to their religious practices, as well as the personal experiences (where these could be pointed out) from which they arose.

Putting the Psalms into eleven groupings, each with its sub-groups where necessary, Dr. Leslie describes the mood of that group, then takes each one of the psalms separately, verse by verse and even word by word in some instances interpreting it for the reader today. Here are Hymns of the Revelation of God, Hymns for the Hebrew

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Though scholarly in background, none of the book is dull nor heavy; the warmth of the author's feeling for the Psalms, as well as his care that they shall be thoroughly understood by the ordinary reader, make certain of that. This volume may well be used for devotional readings in one's own quiet time, as well as for study. Both minister and layman will find it most helpful. It will open locked doors for many laymen.

The excellent and careful indices, to the Psalms themselves, to Biblical references, and to persons and subjects, as well as the splendid bibliography, are of special value.

H. W. F.

Notes on the Parables of Our Lord (Popular Edition) by R. C. Trench. Baker Book House, 211 pages. \$2.50.

Here is a most helpful book by an Anglican Archbishop, now deceased, who was at one time Dean of Westminster Testament interpretation. For the minister who wants his congregation to hear the best regarding the parabolic teachings of Jesus, here is a timely book which will save hours of research in the field. Each page is full of sermonic material for that series you plan to preach. Each parable has its own logical outline which can be well adapted to sermonizing. We believe you will not only read it, but will repeatedly return to it for clarity and insight.

One of the most worthwhile features of this book is its simplicity. Dean Trench has, in a simple yet most scholarly fashion, eliminated the usual theological terms and has written in a language which will be understood by the average Bible student as well as the theologian.

In this Popular Edition the first twenty-six pages are given to such basic thoughts as, "The Definition of the Parable, The Teaching of Parables, The Interpretation of Parables, and Selections of Parables, Besides Those in the Scriptures." In the remainder of the book, with the exception of a few pages of notes, the author presents an exegetical study of thirty Parables of our Lord. Each Parable is a completed chapter upon a specific situation. Each sentence is concise and to the point.

Further value of this book may be found in the words of the author which we quote, "Each of the parables is like a casket, itself of exquisite workmanship, but in which jewels richer than itself are laid up; or like fruit, which, however lovely to look upon, is yet more delectable in its inner sweetness. To find, then, the golden key at the touch of which the casket shall reveal its treasures, to open this fruit so that nothing of its hidden kernel shall be lost, has ever been regarded as a matter of high concern." We believe that Dean Trench has found the golden key in his *Notes on the Parables of Our Lord*. We recommend this book to all readers, but most especially to him who must budget his book-money with care.

J. C. L.

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Jesus Christ

Jesus and the Disinherited by Howard Thurman. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press. 112 pages. \$1.25.

Dr. Thurman, now co-pastor of the Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in San Francisco, formerly professor of philosophy at Howard University, is one of the better known Negro preachers of this generation. Attracting young and old of every race by his devotional power and by his incisive realism, he is popular on many campuses and in every conference he has ever attended. This small volume shows why this is so.

First, he presents the words of Jesus—which he rightfully insists are words for the disinherited—as a message to the Negro, the Jew, and other minorities who have their backs to the wall. Then he considers Fear, Deception, Hate, and Love in turn, pointing out how the first two come from an insecure background, how the third is inevitable as a result of the others, and finally how the last, love, which he says is Jesus' principle of fellowship in all relationships, is the sole answer for the Christian.

Persuasive by logic and illustration, Thurman's argument will be pushed aside by the vocal non-Christian; but there is none other that will work.

H. W. F.

Preaching

The Message and the Silence of the American Pulpit by Sabapathy Kulan-dran. The Pilgrim Press. 203 pages. \$2.50.

One who helps us to see ourselves as others see us performs a salutary service. Bishop Kulan-dran of the Church of South India has done this in his helpful and challenging study. While recognizing the limitations of a comparatively short visit to this country, he offers his conclusions as hypotheses which he has verified.

The opening chapter of the volume deals briefly with the religions of India. Following two chapters which are concerned with the objections to proclaiming a religious message to other lands and the question as to whether the Church has anything to say, the author addresses himself to the general theme of the book. He feels that the American pulpit is overemphasizing the importance of social and ethical questions and the "sound practical" type of sermon. He finds a silence on important theological issues that are beyond the immediate concerns of individual and social life.

There are chapters concerned with the beginnings of Christianity, the discovery of the Good News and The Need of a Saviour. This author disparages the attempt to arrive at a world religion by adding the values of all religions or by "repairing other religions with the spare parts of Christianity." He affirms that a religion such as Hinduism is an interdependent, organic whole. The apparent similarities between Hinduism and Christianity are "highly deceptive" because of differing conceptions of God, sin and the soul. (Your reviewer, born in India of missionary parents, heartily agrees with the author at this point).

The Fundamentalist-Liberal controversy is discussed in a chapter entitled The Great Ballyhoo. The main ques-

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by Mary Perkins

How a young mother's mind may easily ascend from her own baby to the God who showed so many aspects of his love and wisdom when he made both that baby and all the others in the world. We think it would be hard to find parents (or grandparents) who could resist this lovely book. The author, by the way, knows all about her subject—she has three babies of her own!

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THE CREED IN SLOW MOTION

by Msgr. Ronald Knox

Sermons on the Apostles' Creed, originally delivered to a singularly fortunate group of schoolgirls, now offered to everybody. The same author's **MASS IN SLOW MOTION** (\$2.50), published last year, was our 1948 best seller, in spite of the fact that the subject naturally limited its appeal—but everyone, we believe, will be delighted with what Msgr. Knox has to say about the Apostles' Creed.

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tion is whether a religious viewpoint is true or not, whether history consists "merely of man's deeds and misdeeds" or "Did God come into the world . . . and do something great and unrepeatable?" Christian faith arose because Jesus Christ was Truth and did not merely teach truth.

In the last chapter Bishop Kulan-dran discusses the nature and function of the Church and pleads for "a faith that will be historic without being antiquated, modern without being modernistic, fundamental without being fundamentalist, lasting without being stale."

Whether or not one agrees with the author's estimate of American Christianity this is a rewarding and thought-provoking book.

J. C. P.

Windows of Thought by David Piper. W. A. Wilde Company. 148 pages. \$1.50.

This little volume is a gold mine of illustrations that will fit many subjects and many occasions. There are fifty-two human interest stories in the book and they will arouse new interest in everyday life. Such stories as Yourself Tomorrow and God Amid the Ruins are worth the price of the book.

These stories might be called Appetizers for they will help anyone to get a real vision of larger truths that will serve to make life more interesting, more helpful, and more beautiful. As one reads these stories his fancy will take flights into new worlds where he will find himself interested in deeper things than any of which he has dreamed.

He is a rare genius who can take *The Old Almanac* and draw from it a lesson about the human mind. In this story he declares that we need the gospel of Christ worse than the men and women of old needed the almanac that told about pills and astrology. Everyone reading this volume will have a surprising refreshing of mind.

A. H. J.

Our Inheritance of Salvation by C. Gordon Brownville, D.D. Fleming H. Revell Company. 159 pages. \$1.75.

The central theme of the Bible is man's salvation. The author of this book, the pastor of a large church in Los Angeles, California, is well fitted to write on the subject of the volume. The author carries out in full his statement that "The purpose of the chapters in this book will be to seek the strengthening of the faith of the readers by proving an unimpeachable fulfilled law by Jesus Christ in his ministry as the Son of Man."

The book contains eight chapters, each of which may well be called a sermon in first chapter, Redeeming the Mortgaged Possession, sets the pace for the book. From the beginning of that chapter to the end one's interest does not flag, but rather increases as he peruses the pages. The author treats of Forgiveness, Adoption, Divine Righteousness for Guilty Sinners, in a way that makes the matter of salvation have a tremendous meaning for all who read. Deep, thoughtful and enlightening are the discussions in this book. Everyone would be helped by reading it.

A. H. J.

Retreats

Time to Spare by Douglas V. Steere. Harper & Brothers. 187 pages. \$2.00.

Called "A practical manual for Retreats," this volume does just that, a detailed story of how to conduct three-day retreats, now becoming so popular and so vital wherever there are prayer "cells" or the like. Then, to add even more to its worth, the second part has talks, readings, and spiritual instructions for the full time of such a retreat, these out of the wide experience of Dr. Steere, professor at Haverford, and one of the finest writers of devotional materials for modern usage.

Recognizing that only a few Episcopalians in this country have Retreat Houses to which Protestants can go, Dr. Steere tells here just where these can be developed by folk of other denominations, how to run the physical plant, what to do for promotion, the kind of books, beds, and board to have, and almost all else one would wish to know. He tells earlier about Kirkridge and other such newer groups in this country, as well as about some of those in Europe, giving encouragement to those who would establish such retreats.

His second section is exceptionally fine, to be used just "as is," or to be adapted and made part of the retreat leaders' own experience. I have found this material very fine for my own personal devotions too, and gladly recommend it for that worth alone.

No other book of its kind has been printed in this country. Dr. Steere gives excellent bibliographical materials, as well as source material as to organizations sponsoring or contemplating either prayer cells or retreats.

Helpful indeed is a portion of a chapter on rules for discipline, to be followed by retreatants returning from their three-day experience. From beginning to end this book is highly practical and deeply significant.

H. W. F.

Church at Work

Church Activities for Young Couples by George Gleason. Association Press. 127 pages. \$1.50.

How to hold the interest of young couples in the church has been one of your reviewer's problems in several pastorates. It seems unwise to mix them in the same group with unmarried young people or with older married couples. Here is a helpful little book addressed to this very problem. It is an "attempt to discover the procedure by which churches may meet their responsibilities for young married people." Twenty years ago the author found this a "no-man's land" in the religious education programs of the Protestant churches of this country. In this study he presents an analysis of 222 groups of young adults. He discusses such subjects as the origin of these groups, the program emphasis, the teachers, and the place of the groups in the structure and life of the church. He sets forth the principles for evaluating such organizations and enumerates ten human needs which must be kept in mind. Helpful denominational literature and programs for young couples are listed.

This is a wise, practical study. The author is Church and Community Coordinator in the County Government of

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Los Angeles and has long been interested in the church activities of young adults.

J. C. P.

Young Christians at Work by T. Otto Nall and Bert H. Davis. Association Press. 116 pages. \$1.75.

Here are the true life stories of fifteen young people in as many differing vocations, all of whom are doing their jobs in the light of practicing Christians. The co-authors point out that in each of these the major emphasis is "what the worker does through his work for God and man is vastly more important than what that work does to him."

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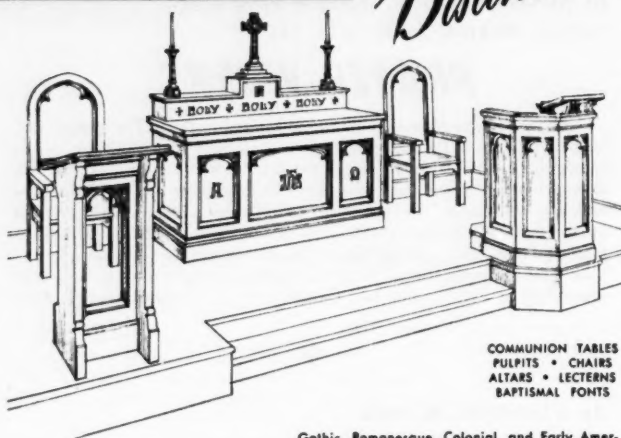
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H. W. F.

Worship

Enriching Worship edited by A. J. William Myers. Harper & Brothers. 398 pages. \$3.50.

After years as head of the department of religious education at Hartford Seminary, Dr. Myers has gathered together in this volume those bits of material, many from his wife's scrapbook, which through the years have been for him aids to worship. These include 127 prose selections, mostly quite brief, 357 poems, 357 aphorisms, 139 prayers and 84 Psalms.

His indices include names of known authors and first-lines of the various selections, but no topical index. Hence, in spite of blank pages for the reader to put down his own personal choices, there is no ready way for the leader of worship to find the material he wants. He either must memorize each selection, or prepare over a long time a careful index. This is the major weakness of the book.

Actually, these will have value as seed thoughts for youth talks or the like. For those without such volumes, with their fine indices, this may have some worth. But on the whole it is just another man's taste put on record. Its weakness is not counter-balanced by its content.

H. W. F.

Brotherhood

Above All Nations edited by Devere Allen. Harper & Brothers. 189 pages. \$2.00.

Compiled by George Catlin, Vera Brittain, Sheila Hodges and Gert Spindler in Europe and by Devere Allen here in this country, each without the knowledge of the others, this collection of 200 true anecdotes out of the recent war came about when it was found that so many were at work on it. Indeed, it was evident that *Above All Nations* was the brotherhood revealed by these dramatic narratives of men and women rising above nationalism in time of war.

In nine sections Allen has arranged these tales, some only a dozen lines, some two or three pages, showing how in battle, or in helping the wounded, or in connection with war graves, or in one of several other occasions, enemies have proven to be brothers because of their humanity by which they reached over national barriers. Sometimes they are Christian, but not always. But at no time did enmity become the whole war for any of this

multitude who appears in this excellent anthology.

Just for casual reading in odd moments, or for rather careful study and analysis, this little book will serve its purpose to point out the spirit of man that rises above all nations.

H. W. F.

Dramas

One-Act Plays of Spiritual Power selected and edited by Fred Eastman. Walter H. Baker Company, Boston. 196 pages. Price not given.

Three times earlier Fred Eastman has edited similar volumes of plays of spiritual power, all of which are now out of print. This is a most worthy successor.

Ten one-act plays, all but one of which can be presented by a dramatic group, are here brought together, some brief, some longer. One belongs to Christmas, Wilder's "The Flight into Egypt," the only one that cannot be staged. Two belong to Easter, "A Cloud of Witnesses" by Bates and "Easter Wings" by Allan. The rest all suggest how we may survive this atomic age. Indeed, the first one, "Pilot Lights of the Apocalypse" by Louis Ridenour (a physicist connected with radar who knows firsthand the problem of atomic energy), is a warning of what can happen in an atomic age.

Dr. Eastman declares that three criteria were used in making his selections: dramatic craftsmanship, adaptability to amateur talent and production, and total effect. Other than the first play, which is to warn, these exalt the human spirit. Knowing that groups do seek such plays, he has gathered these, with full directions concerning their use as to the payment of royalties. These might be well to read aloud, but for those who can, they are superb for acting.

H. W. F.

Verse

The Beauty Bringer by Charles Hannibal Voss. The Story Book Press, Dallas, Texas. \$2.00.

Carillons and Cow Bells by Maybon Lindley. The Naylor Company, San Antonio, Texas. \$2.00.

We are glad to give publicity to both of these books. I don't know much about poetry but the writings of these two poets, both of whom are readers of *Church Management* has so appealed to me that I have used many of their verses in *Church Management*. Mr. Voss is the minister of the Edge Memorial Methodist Church, Groveland, Florida. Mrs. Lindley is the wife of the Dean of Brite College of the Bible, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas.

Just to give a sample from each book.

From *The Beauty Bringer*:

WHEN AN EASTER LILY
LIFTS ITS HEAD

When an Easter lily lifts its head
Face upward to the sky,
Its golden tongue is crying out:
"You were not made to die;

"You need not fear the resting time
When sleep comes in the night
Tomorrow you will lift your head,
Risen and lily white."

From *Carillons and Cow Bells*:

Dusk

is a pensive woman

sighing
closing dark velvet curtains
over flashing lights of
red
blue
amethyst
gold . . .

Quietly
she anchors the folds
with silver jewels
hums a lullaby and
tiptoes
off
to
bed.

W. H. L.

Various Topics

These Also Believe by Charles S. Braden. The Macmillan Company. 491 pages. \$6.00.

This is an objective study of thirteen minority religious groups whose major development has come in America. Dr. Braden, professor at Northwestern University, has studied very carefully through personal contact with leaders and with laymen to see just how these groups came alive. Though sympathetic in his approach he looks at them with the eye of a careful researcher. He includes Father Divine's Peace Movement, Christian Science, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormonism, and nine other lesser known groups.

Marcus Bach in popularized form presented a picture of several of these groups. This volume goes much beyond Bach both in its sensitive research and in its very careful appraisal. Step by step the growth of the movement, the principle evolved, and the present following have been pictured. It is a very clear presentation of each of these thirteen minority religious movements in America. This very fair and very clear study will interest everyone who has heard about any of these minority cults.

H. W. F.

Not My Own by Ethel Matson. Fleming H. Revell Company. 207 pages. \$2.50.

Not My Own is an exciting novel about the Vernon Craig of Margin, Washington, who is led to an evangelistic service by anonymous postal from Oregon and converted. The next day he is singing, "Jesus, Rose of Sharon" when Hester Marchant, 22, enters his shop to buy electric bulbs: "Long time no see." She asks about his song, so he plunges into his first testimony, "I was lost in sin and bound for an eternity without God. But Jesus saved me through faith in his atonement for me, and now my destination is heaven instead." Vern cannot dissuade Hester from her intention to wed Carl Walker, Texas rancher and fellow Oregon Bible Inquirer. Then Carl jilts Hester and their common call as missionaries to Ecuador. She and Vernon are drawn together but have a misunderstanding. In Los Angeles he falls in love with Sally West. Their landlady's daughter, dying of blows in a marijuana den, asks for him. Vern gives "the plan of salvation" and shows her joyously into heaven.

How these characters accord with the Gospel song, "Not My Own" (I Corinthians 6:19) and Romans 8:28 is the burden of this E. P. Roe "Knight of



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the Twentieth Century," with plenty of action and suspense. D. B. H.

C. S. Lewis: *Apostle to the Skeptics* by Chad Walsh. The Macmillan Company. 176 pages. \$2.50.

Chad Walsh, professor at Beloit College, having prepared several articles on the work of C. S. Lewis, noted for his *Screwtape Letters* and other books on a variety of subjects, combines them with further chapters to make a critical appraisal of the best-known exponent of Christianity to a secular and sophisticated generation.

Discussing the various works of Lewis in order, after a brief picture of the man himself, Walsh then considers the outstanding ideas of this theologian and philosopher. Rather than appraising the man, he says what others have said, and quotes extensively from Lewis himself to illustrate the trends of thought.

Those who enjoy Lewis beyond the *Screwtape Letters*, by which most folk know him, will enjoy this study. Others will find it rather dull. But it does give an insight into the character of this Britisher. H. W. F.

Dauntless Women by Winifred Mathews. Friendship Press. 170 pages. \$1.50.

Without their talented helpmates, says the author, great men would have been like birds trying to fly with one wing. Certainly too often, great men have overshadowed the lives of faithful women who have had no small part in helping their husbands to scale the heights. The writer does a needed mission in bringing to clearer recognition the wives of noble men pointing out how their achievements have often been inspired by the ones who have walked the ways beside them. It has not been an easy task for often the life stories of these dauntless women have had to be gleaned out of the histories of their husbands.

Winifred Mathews has dealt with the wives of the celebrated missionaries: Ann Judson, Mary Moffat, Mary Livingston, Christina Coillard, Mary Williams, Agnes Watt and Lillias Underwood.

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Biographical Sermon for October

Peter Witt -- "Skinner of Skunks"

by Thomas H. Warner

To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.—Proverbs 21:3.

PETER WITT was born in Cleveland, Ohio, July 24, 1869. He died October 20, 1948. A writer said: "Peter Witt probably had a more profound and dynamic influence on the political life of the city of Cleveland than any man of the last generation."

His father, Christian Witt, came to America from Germany in 1848, because he loved liberty. He settled in Philadelphia and married a German girl, Anna Probeck. When Lincoln issued his first call for 75,000 men, Witt settled his affairs in a few hours and enlisted. During his absence at the front his wife supported herself and three children by sewing cavalry trousers at forty cents a pair.

At the end of the Civil War the family moved to Cleveland where Peter was born. He went as far as the fifth grade in school. When he was thirteen he had to quit and go to work. He got a job in a basket factory at \$5.00 a week.

In 1886 he was apprenticed to the moulder's trade. He became active in union affairs, found himself blacklisted by the foundries and out of a job. Later, he said: "The foundry employers were all patriots. They believed in the traditional American right of free speech so devoutly that they locked their doors to me so that I could give all my time to exercising that right."

Tragically poor, Witt searched for such bits of work as he could get to do. He was disillusioned, embittered. He had a lot of time to think. He read everything he could get which dealt with politics, government and economics. Then he began to fight injustice wherever he found it.

In 1900 Witt made the acquaintance of Tom L. Johnson. He assisted him in his campaigns for mayor. Johnson said of him: "He has fought with me in every campaign I have been in, and one of the strongest friendships of my life commenced that night when I welcomed Peter Witt to my platform."

Witt was elected city clerk in 1903. In 1912 Mayor Newton D. Baker appointed him traction commissioner. In 1915 he ran for mayor but was defeated.

Witt then became a traction consult-

ant. He was recognized throughout the country as one of the ablest experts in that field. He made a lot of money. It is said that he got as high as \$1,000 a week when he was actively working.

Cleveland was amazed in 1930 when Witt, deadly foe of the Van Sweringen, signed a five-year contract for Metropolitan Utilities, Inc., the Van Sweringen Company which controlled the Cleveland Railway Company. There were many who charged him with selling out. But those who knew him said: "Pete has something to sell—a knowledge of the traction problem. That's what they're buying, Pete's ideas about traction. But they're not buying Pete. They couldn't."

Witt held a "town meeting" every year. He called it his "razzberry party." Clevelanders paid for the privilege of hearing themselves "skinned" by Witt. He designated himself "the skinner of skunks." These meetings became an annual civic airing. Victims came as well as spectators.

At his 1931 meeting he described President Hoover as "the master of hokum, bunk and hoocy." The tariff was an "international swindle, advocated by knaves and believed in by fools." Addressing the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, he said: "You no longer practice a profession. It's an industrial pursuit. It's ridiculous to talk about ethics, there are none."

As the guest of the American Electric Railway Association at Washington, he "gave hell" to his hosts, and told them to ride on their own street cars to get the viewpoint of the public. He always had the capacity for righteous indignation and the courage to express it regardless of popular sentiment.

Witt was a prominent member of the Cleveland City Club. He always sat at the "Soviet table" where hilarious argument and friendly discussion were engaged in. With the club, he was the enemy of cant and humbug. Yet with all his occasional violence he could also take it. He had a boundless and infectious sense of humor.

The president of the City Club Forum Foundation said: "Peter Witt was the embodiment of the spirit of the City Club. He was a thorough believer in democratic principle without 'ifs and ands,' especially with emphasis on

"the right of everybody, no matter what his cause, to be heard."

Abraham Lincoln was Witt's idol. Every year he delivered an eloquent eulogy on Lincoln to which hundreds listened. It was a dramatic capitulation of his life. He closed his peroration with these words: "The crowded room is cleared. The shades are drawn. Secretary of War Edwin Stanton is the last to leave. As he closes the door of the house of death he announces the passing of Abraham Lincoln in these prophetic words, 'Now he belongs to the ages.'"

With all his violent language Witt had tenderness and sympathy for the underdog. No man, acquaintance or stranger, ever asked Pete for money without getting it, no matter how low his resources were. Yet he would not give a dime to the Community Fund.

No just appraisal of Witt can be made without recalling that at a time in his life when he was broke he refused to accept a check for \$7,800 offered by the Cleveland Railway Company for royalties on a car he had designed. He sent it back because the work had been done when he held city office. According to his code the money belonged to the public—the car riders.

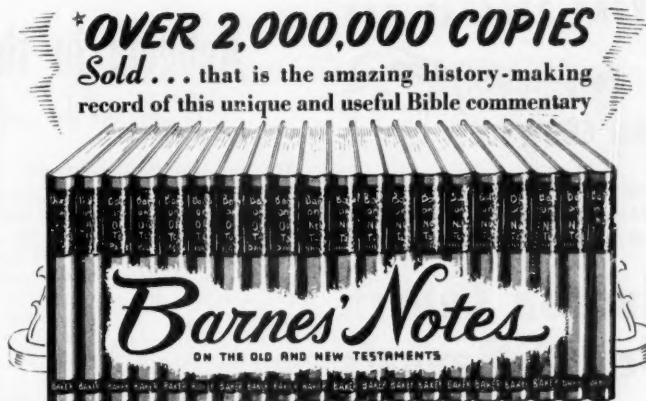
Witt was a paradoxical person. This was clearly shown in the contrast between his home life and his public life. In the latter he was sharp-tongued, bitter, scornful, a scourge to those with whom he disagreed. His home life was calm and peaceable, it was the most sacred place he knew and he loved it.

Witt never belonged to a church. Mrs. Witt once persuaded him to attend a service. He selected a Congregational church as being the most likely to be in accord with his views. Everything went well until the middle of the sermon. Then the minister said something with which he disagreed. Whereupon he removed his wife, his two daughters and himself, and never went to church again.

Yet a writer said: "Witt feared nothing. He followed his conscience wherever it led. Few are the men who can set off on the long journey with the peace and conscience that blesses Peter Witt. There probably never was another Cleveland like him."

"Cleveland generations yet unborn will extol the character and career of Peter Witt. . . . Peter Witt's oratorical talents were such that he would have enlivened the Roman Forum, or engaged on equal terms with Calhoun or Webster had he been born in another age. He was deeply loved, and in an earlier day was violently hated. He too loved and hated violently."

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pronounced by his closest friend, Edgar S. Byers, said: "Peter was not a follower of any religious faith or creed, but he had his own faith and creed, and if all men followed that creed what a world this might be! This was his philosophy of life as read by him at the City Club on the occasion of the celebration of his seventieth birthday: 'Forget yesterday, believe in today, hope for tomorrow, and live your life in your own way, wholly unmin-

ful of what others think or say, is my philosophy of life.'"

A writer says that Witt never ceased to believe, despite many signs to the contrary, that the political heaven on earth would some day come to pass—the day when justice and honesty and freedom would triumph, and simple, self-respecting citizens would rule all countries. "In Bible days, with his rich golden voice, his flair for sharp phrases and his single-mindedness, Peter would have been a prophet."

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Reported by *Albert D. Belden*

The Congregational International

THE delegates from London, headed by Dr. Sidney M. Berry, the new International Secretary, and Rev. Leslie Cooks, the new Secretary of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, seem thoroughly to have enjoyed their visit to the International Council held during June at Wellesley College, Massachusetts. Says the *Christian World of London*:

The Wellesley meetings were a heartening reminder that through this denomination groups of men and women throughout the world are vowed to the fundamental Congregational principle of liberty—as the Council's message to the Churches put it, "liberty for the individual, for the Churches, and for that free association of the Churches which is the Church." Congregationalism is still, among all the Free Churches, the freest of the free. No aspect of the Christian witness is more urgently needed in the world of today than this claim to freedom as "an inalienable right, not by the grant of society, but because all freedom is derived of God and resides in the free consent of the people of God..." Freedom under God is the one condition of light: light in our theological studies, light in our discussion of ethics, light in our political and social decisions.

The British Bible Society

The Translations Department of the British and Foreign Bible Society has had a year of steady progress. Translators have added six new languages to the list, bringing the total to 784 out of a world total of 1,084. They have completed six new Bibles, including the Tibetan. They have also completed four New Testaments. Work is going on in forty-three new languages, and the translators are also bringing to completion thirty-two New Testaments and sixteen Bibles; in twenty-eight other languages they have produced new books. The process of perfecting existing translations is going on in thirty-six languages.

Dr. Mott at Bible House

We learn that Dr. John R. Mott, veteran leader in the missionary work of the churches, paid a surprise visit to Bible House recently, going into prayers and staying for the opening of one of the overseas committees. In speaking briefly to the committee, he gave a message of indomitable hope—"We are moving into the greatest time we have ever known. I have never had greater hope in the future than I have today." It was grand to hear such words of faith and courage from this great

world-traveller. Dr. Mott was to cross the Atlantic next day for the one hundred and twelfth time and has visited—and got to know—over eighty countries in the course of his eighty-two years, and probably done more than any single man to shape and give content to the modern missionary enterprise. Dr. Mott is a vice-president of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

London Missionary Society

The annual summer conference of this historic society held at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, was attended by 300 Congregationalists aged sixteen to eighty. The majority were under thirty, and the proportion of single men was larger than usual. The chairman was Basil H. Sims, B.A., B.Litt. of Redland Park Church, Bristol, and Dr. Robert S. Paul, minister of Leatherhead Church, lectured on the history of the Church—Its Rise, Reformation, Revival, and Reunion.

Centenary of a Great Missionary

On August 21 it was a hundred years since the birth of George Grenfell, the Baptist pioneer missionary of Africa. Ernest A. Payne, of Regents Park College, London, writes:

Fifty years ago the main work of Grenfell's life was over. Into the twenty-five years from 1874 to 1899 there were crowded his early missionary experiences at Fernando Po and Victoria, his historic prospecting journey with Tom Comber to the mouth of the Congo and to San Salvador in 1878, and then two decades of exploration and adventure up the great river. A chain of Baptist mission-stations was planted above Stanley Falls from Bolobo to Yakusu. In Comber, Bentley and Grenfell the B.M.S. discovered a notable missionary triumvirate. Their work was hazardous and costly. It involved danger, drudgery and tragedy. In the first forty years of the Congo mission there were no less than sixty-one deaths. But the territory was opened up. The dream of Robert Arthington, the eccentric Leeds millionaire, who provided much of the money, was largely fulfilled. Grenfell, sailing up the waterways in the Peace, which he had himself put together, caught the popular imagination in something of the way Livingston trekking through the forests had done a generation earlier...

Grenfell died at Basoko in June, 1906. He had outlived most of his earlier companions, although he was only fifty-six.

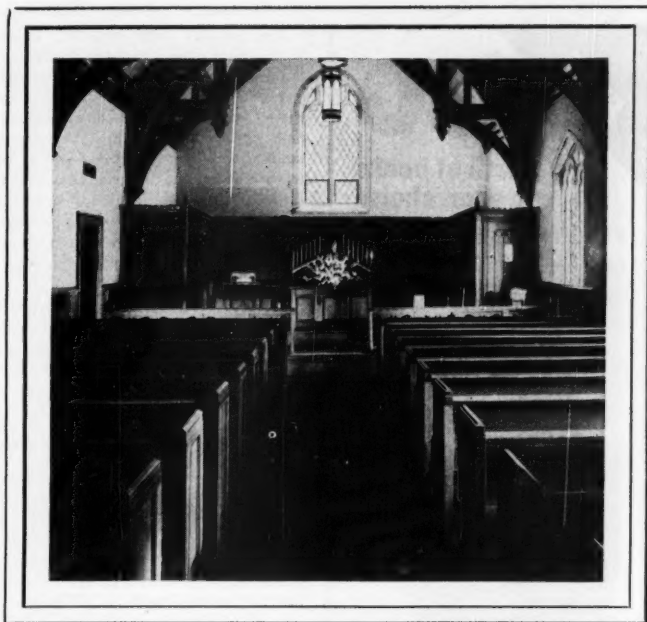
World Council at Chichester

Of the ecumenical gatherings which have taken place this summer chief attention has naturally and rightly

been focused on the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches. Its sessions at Chichester were reported at considerable length in both the daily and weekly press. Many important practical decisions were taken at Chichester. A year after the Amsterdam Assembly, it becomes clear that the new machinery for joint consultation and action is even more necessary, effective and important than its creators thought.

At the Chichester meeting of the Department of Faith and Order some sixty theologians and Church leaders met under the chairmanship of Bishop Brilioth, of Sweden, together with an international youth delegation of ten whose presence was much appreciated. It was a friendly meeting although there was often frank speaking. Sessions of worship were led by the chairman, by Bishop Wilhelm Stahlin, of the German Evangelical Church, by Commissioner Cunningham, of the Salvation Army, and by Bishop Cassian, of the Oecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. Reports from all three commissions were received and discussed. New lines of study were opened up. Important practical decisions were taken. It is hoped that by the summer of 1951 the Commissions will be able to present to the Department the results of their studies. It is, therefore, proposed—and this has been approved by the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches—that in 1952 there should be another World Conference on Faith and Order, in the succession Lausanne, 1927, Edinburgh, 1937. An invitation has been received from the university and cathedral town of Lund in Sweden.

A good deal was heard at Chichester about a new subject of inquiry, namely, the examination of non-doctrinal factors, making for disunity among Christians. A letter from Professor C. H. Dodd provided the starting-point of several important discussions. There are personal associations, unconscious assumptions and instinctive reactions which require study from a psychological point of view. In addition there are racial, national, political, economic and cultural forces which both in the past and the present have proved more powerful than any more narrowly theological concerns in rending asunder the Body of Christ. Many felt that the frank recognition and examination of these factors would bring a new note of realism into theological debate. Dr. H. S. Leiper saw that the conference did not forget either the atom bomb or the common man, and Professor Hromadka, of Prague, was present throughout the meetings and made a number of valuable contributions.



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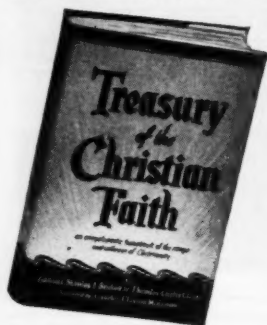
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The Methodist Conference at Liverpool

The Annual Conference of British Methodism, the Mother Church of World Methodism, is one of the high-spots of Christendom, for World Methodism is the largest Protestant communion on earth. The three services of Ordination alone constitute one of the most moving and impressive occasions of a Christian year—101 new ministers were added to the preaching strength of British Methodism on this occasion.

Here is an interesting episode at the beginning of the Conference:

The Rev. E. Benson Perkins stands to welcome the new president, the Rev. Howard Morley Rattenbury (the missionary brother of the famous family)—

And then to everyone's surprise and delight, two Chinese guests step forward and, in the name of the Methodists in China, claim the privilege of sharing in the ceremony. "You have elected a Chinaman to be President!" declares Principal Stephen Wong, from Tongshan, and hands a new presidential robe to the new president. It is a perfect touch, and we share the evident pleasure of our Chinese brethren.

The vice-president (president-elect for the next year) is W. Sangster, Ph. D. of Central Hall, Westminster, fifty years of age.

Henry Carter and Refugees

An outstanding lecture of the conference was that of Henry Carter, the veteran servant of Peace and Goodwill, who was this year's Beckly Lecturer. Naturally, as chairman of the World Council of Churches' Standing Committee on Refugees, his subject was set for him. Here is a notable extract from the utterance of one who is perhaps the greatest living authority on the refugees. After describing the awful state of these outcasts in Europe, Mr. Carter told he he:

recently presided over a conference in Hamburg sponsored by the Foreign Office at which representatives from the British, American and French zones, including the German state governments, and of the World Council of Churches, had considered solutions. They decided that the first priority must be the building of houses, so that the hundreds of thousands of people who were still living in cellars and dugouts, could be lifted out of this sub-human level of life. Next there was unemployment. But building schemes would help, but there must be a great investment of capital to restart industries which would employ all those who were now living on the dole provided by the German governments or the occupying powers. The conference also recommended the setting up of light industries for the employment of women, of whom there were seven million more than men in Germany today. All these things could only be achieved if Marshall Aid was forthcoming.

World Youth

In August of last year an International Conference of Youth was held

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at the Central Hall, Westminster. As a sequel to it, this August, more than 350 young people from forty different countries met for an eight-day conference at Laeken, Brussels, to establish a World Assembly of Youth. One large contributing factor to this achievement has been the World Youth Friendship League, started in London by a young Methodist minister, Rev. Arthur Bird, who has just given up his pastoral work to concentrate on the League. He projected the 'International Youth Review' and has made it a colorful journal of World Youth activity. Today the League numbers 6,000 members. Youth League Clubs are being formed in many countries, and German youth especially has responded splendidly. In Germany there are already ten such clubs about which 5,000 League members are gathered.

The League's fundamental philosophy is that barriers of race, color and nationality can only be broken down in the spirit of Christianity, and its members aim to aspire to a way of life "which transcends national loyalty, and at working in a constructive manner to achieve world peace."

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any movement, sending out to Europe, and in particular behind the Iron Curtain, fully trained young Christians equally competent to carry the Christian message to young people and older folk in a more secular, intimate and realistic manner than can be achieved in the Churches at the moment. "In Europe there is the greatest need today," he told me. "It ranks as high in missionary importance as Africa and India."

Tailpiece

The professor appeared one morning among his colleagues with his face cut in several places, and adorned with court plaster. He looked as though he had been shaved by a hoe. One of his friends asked what had happened. He replied: "I was shaved by a man this morning who is, I suppose, a little above being a barber. I know, to my own knowledge, that he went to Cambridge, and spent several years in foreign universities. I know, too, that he has contributed scientific articles to our best magazines, and has numbered among his friends men of the highest social standing. And yet," he said, "he cannot shave a man decently."

"But what is he a barber for?" asked one of the company, "if he has all those accomplishments?"

"He isn't," replied the professor. "I shaved myself this morning!"

ANTIDOTE FOR PESSIMISM

There is a fine story about the last days of George Lansbury, one of England's tireless workers for peace. He had spent all of his mature life wrestling with the knotty problems which lead to war. He lived through the First World War and died with the guns of the second one echoing throughout the world. It did seem like forty years thrown away! A close friend asked him how much nearer he thought peace was as a result of his efforts. Lansbury replied, "Forty years nearer!"

There's an antidote for the pessimism we so easily fall into about the inevitability of war, the hopelessness of peace! The spirit in Lansbury's reply brings sharply to mind the seventh beatitude or blessing of the Sermon on the Mount: "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." From *Main Issues Confronting Christendom* by Harold A. Bosley; Harper & Brothers.

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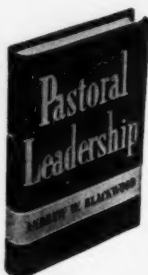
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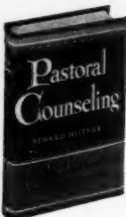
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The Tuning Fork[†]

A Sermon for Children

by S. Rees-Tyrer^{*}

I LIVED as a boy in a valley among the Welsh mountains. People had to travel long distances from cottages and farms to the church. The organist was a farmer, and it sometimes happened in winter that owing to severe weather, or urgent duties during the lambing season, he was unable to be at service. But there was a shepherd who was always present, and he carried a tuning fork in his vest pocket. It was about four inches long, and when he struck it (usually across his knee), it gave the correct C note. He would then pick up the note, run through the scale, take the note he wanted and lead off the singing.

Sometimes when the hymn was over he would strike his tuning fork to see whether he had kept in tune throughout. We used to watch him anxiously then. If he gave a slight nod of his head all was well. But if he shook his head, as he sometimes did, we knew that somehow he had got out of tune. A lot depended on that little tuning fork.

When I first went to hear a big orchestra I didn't know very much about it. I sat in the seat with my brother and watched the players coming in. They picked up their instruments and started making all sorts of weird noises with them. "That's a funny tune!" I said to my brother. "Don't be silly," he replied, "they are only tuning up. They are taking their note from the piano." "What happens if there isn't a piano?" I asked further. "Then they take their note from one of the wind instruments."

Presently the conductor came in. He had a quick look round, tapped his desk until all eyes were fixed on him. Then he started waving his baton, and wonderful music came which thrilled me very much. I knew then that an orchestra must be tuned together, and it is useless to begin unless the instruments have been properly set.

I heard of a lonely farmer who used to be very fond of playing his violin in order to while away the long hours of his loneliness. But he had nothing with which to tune his instrument, and he was never sure whether or not he was

[†]If the preacher can show the children a tuning fork and strike it asking them to listen carefully for the note, it would help in creating atmosphere. If the minister can handle a violin with sufficient ability to tune it from the tuning fork, it would add to the effectiveness of the address.

^{*}Minister, St. John's Congregational Church, Ipswich, England.

playing in the right key. He had a little radio set, and one day he wrote to a radio station and asked them at a certain hour to give him the right note. They received his letter, stopped the program at the stated time, and struck the note he wanted. The farmer heard it, caught it and tuned his violin. And he knew that for a while at least he would be able to play correctly.

People get out of tune, too. We sometimes say, "I'm in a bad mood today." We feel irritable, and people annoy us with very trivial things. If we were to remember every morning to set our hearts in tune with God it would be a different story. When we say our prayers we get the right note from God.

You may be able to play a melody of some sort with a violin that hasn't been properly tuned. But it won't be a good one. It won't be the best possible. So many people think they can get on all right without God. But they are not getting the best out of life or out of themselves. They must tune in with God.

Those little tuning forks are really most important, aren't they?

A RESULT OF SELF-CENTERED DETACHMENT

Tchekov has an amazing story of a young doctor who was appointed to take charge of a hospital where many mental patients were confined, but the hospital was so insanitary that he concluded it would take too much out of him to improve conditions and reform the place. So he turned away in disgust and took to his books, studying eagerly the wonderful advances made by medicine and surgery and neglected the hospital for which he was responsible. The result of his self-centered detachment was that people began to think him rather queer, the authorities by and by requested his resignation, and in the end he was confined in the hospital himself as a mental patient, and died at the horror of being shut up in such a scene of neglect. Such was the ironical nemesis on one who did not share his knowledge with those who depended on his help but kept his professional skill to himself instead of expending it to relieve the unfortunate committed to his charge. It is a parable of our mutual dependence, and how we are all so tied together in the bundle of life. . . . From *Crisis on the Frontier* by Arthur A. Cowan; T. & T. Clark; Edinburgh.

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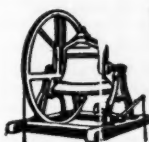
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Plan a Harvest Festival

Here Are Some Suggestions With a Sermon

by *William H. Cole**

HAVE you experimented with a harvest festival? To thank God for the harvest is an act of worship so normal and right it is no wonder churches are adding the harvest festival to their yearly schedules. The festival has its own individuality. Thanksgiving day, with its historical and national associations, has its own place. But Thanksgiving day does not fill the need for praising God amid the color and excitement of harvest. Harvest festival touches worship with the atmosphere of fields and gardens at their glorious peak of fruitfulness. Harvest festival is intimate, molded in each locality to fit the lives of the people, in harmony with the rhythm of nature as people know it.

It is not hard to set the atmosphere of harvest in the church. One simply leads people to bring an offering of their best fruits, vegetables and flowers to the sanctuary for a certain worship service. Some forethought and care will be needed in the case of one or two special exhibits of God's loving providence. A sheaf of wheat or oats, for example, might have to be specially set aside at threshing time if you want it for your scheme of decoration. But for the most part, members of the congregation may be left free to make their own offerings of produce.

Special exhibits will be various in different situations. Some churches will always have a cross made of loaves of bread, at harvest festival; or a lovely home-made loaf to grace the altar or communion table. Bunches of grapes or even a piece of grape vine with leaves and clusters are often placed with the bread. Such a central grouping would need to be planned well, of course.

What to do with the food-stuffs afterward is no problem, though here again the question must be answered in each local situation. In one church, what is given for the festival is destined for use in the community hospital. This being made known, people give accordingly, and so the windows and tables bear jars of home-canned fruits and vegetables. In another church there is always a fellowship supper one or two days after harvest festival. There what is given for

decoration and exhibit is planned with the supper menu in mind. Still another plan, where the village church is the community center, combines harvest festival with what the cities would call "welfare work."

In any case, harvest festival is "visual education" and "finger exercises" in real thanksgiving. Suitable hymns and Scripture passages almost suggest themselves. Several complete services are available, as well as litanies and service sheets. And every church family can have a wholesome part in its opportunities.

At our recent harvest festival, the sermon was:

THANK GOD FOR HIS PATIENCE

It says in the eighth chapter of the Book of Genesis, at the end of the account of the flood: "And Jehovah said in his heart: I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake, for that the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more everything living as I have done. While the earth remaineth seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. And God blessed Noah and his sons and said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth."

It was written how many hundreds of years ago: "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest shall not cease." That is God's decree. And all about you, in fruits and vegetables, are evidences of its fulfillment in modern gardens and fields.

Here is the glorious patience of God our Father. He knows us; knows that we're children who must be forgiven and loved in spite of our faults. And his love is equal to his fatherly task with us! See! In these tomatoes we have food. And we have more. We have seeds, also, for yet another planting and harvest.

You brought these fruits to the Lord's house, thankful for this year's harvest. I hope you will learn all the wisdom compacted into them by God's sun and rain and soil. Here is provision for our present need. And brave good cheer, too. There's beauty here in the red of this tomato, in the yellow grain and in the purples, the greens and the browns. . . . Enjoy this

*Rector, Christ Episcopal Church, Clayton, New York.

beauty. But do not miss this: God intends to do this for us again! Had you thought of that? In this harvest is the proof of his long purpose; the demonstration of his patience.

The Patience of God

Perhaps you and I are too little impressed with God's patience. To us the mark of God's hand is suddenness. When we think of our maker, we seem always to frame the thought of him in terrible, furious activity. Our notion is that God speaks:—and it is done! It is the sickening heave of an earthquake or the fierce stab of lightning tearing open the skies that make us think God is near.

Sometimes God does work through catastrophe and upheaval. But he is always near us. He makes himself known in quieter, less dramatic activity, too. Usually he moves slowly, patiently, along his own way to his far ends. God's thoughts are long, long thoughts. We are fussy, fretful and impatient. Our very prayers may be half-blasphemy, proposing that the Almighty should set aside his slow, cumbrous plans and substitute our streamlined zip and dash. Like a child annoyed by daddy's having to stop to buy the merry-go-round ticket, we keep running ahead of God tugging at his hand, pleading with him to "hurry, hurry."

Well, slow down! Look around at these vegetables for which we give thanks, and consider what is the fastest growing vegetable you can plant? Radishes take about 25 days to grow to eating size. And radishes are the least valuable of all the list in the catalogue from the standpoint of nourishment. No one thought enough of radishes to bring any to church.

To have better fruits and vegetables, a person must possess his soul in patience. That's a hard discipline: patience. But unavoidable.

God waits — till the time is fully come. How long ago he said: "Let us make man in our own image." And for eons nothing seemed to happen. Slowly this earth had to be formed; and slowly, slowly cooled, just right. When life at last did appear it was crude and timid. Slowly, over millions of years and through countless generations God brought life onward and upward until at long last there was mankind on the earth. Even then, how slowly has man progressed toward civilization. How dim even now is the resemblance between us in our earthiness and sin, and God with his splendid love. Men have not patience enough. "If," cried Martin Luther in his vigorous loyalty to God, "If I were God and the world treated me as it has

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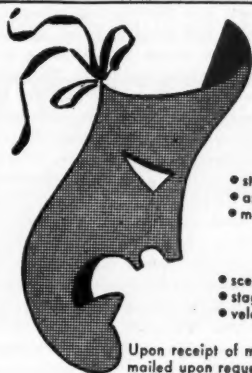
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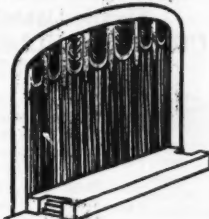
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treated him, I would have kicked the wretched thing to pieces long ago." But God works on. God has decreed: "Seedtime and harvest . . . shall not cease." The thrust of life, in God's hand, is forward. In every reaping, there is the precious germ of a harvest yet unplanted. The long road up ahead is already surveyed and marked for the next step of his creative plan.

New Plantings to Come

The saints of God, the wise men of the ages, have sometimes managed to grasp this truth: that every harvest is the assurance of a planting yet to come. And seeing, their fretful fears were stilled and their hands and hearts given new vigor as they faced their day's work. As Emerson said: "The years teach much which days never know."

I happened to come upon a few lines of poetry, written by Boethius, one evening. Boethius is an example of how harvest is also the assurance of a planting to come. He was a devout and scholarly Christian of the old Roman Empire. He was born about 480 A.D. when savage invaders from the dark forests of central and northern Europe were smashing the Greek and Roman world. So it was his lot to see the last rays of light fading from the ancient world.

Boethius was thrown into prison;—because he had tried to speak up for another man whom the invading tyrant had punished unjustly. To meet the boredom of prison, Boethius fell to reviewing the learning he had harvested from wise and thoughtful men of the Greek and Roman traditions. And so he wrote his book, *The Consolations of Philosophy*.

That book survived him. His *Consolations* was one of the principal textbooks used by Alfred the Great, and by Chaucer, of England; two whose names stand at the very beginnings of that revival of culture and learning in Europe to which our English heritage owes so much. Later still, during the Middle Ages, Boethius' translations of Aristotle and his writings on mathematics were studied with loving care. Loving care, because for centuries after the Goths smashed the Roman Empire, the links with the great minds of Greece and Rome were few and precious; and what the saintly scholar had fed his soul upon in the loneliness of prison became the source of new life in generations after him.

Here is evidence that God's love has already run on ahead of our present need to make provision for harvests in years to come. What lies ahead of us we can not tell! But God's hand is stretched out before us, preparing our



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way. Our little minds can hardly imagine, yet, where we shall be planting at seeding time, next spring. Of course we can not imagine the world as our children will know it when they are grown. You and I are like explorers on some vast new continent: we glimpse at an opening in the forest-wall, and the hint of a river opening a way into the unknown. As Job said, "These are but the outskirts of God's ways—how small a whisper do we hear of him." In this harvest can you not hear God's voice? His fatherly love and care for mankind stretches out beyond the limits of our experience. Here in this year's gathering of God's bounty is the proof that God intends to do it again. His patience runs on before us. Thank God; and take courage.

Parsonage Party for the Preacher's Kids

Every minister has appreciated the clan of Preacher's Kids, some of whom are in his own congregation. He will report that, as a rule, they are good church members. They serve in various tasks and give of their energy to the church. Too often these contributions have gone unheralded. Edith Mooers, whose husband is the minister of the Central Methodist Church, Muskegon, Michigan, felt that those in that congregation should have recognition. So she planned a party for them.

The invitation carried a clever verse which admits is not original. But it is worth repeating.

PARSON'S KIDS

Contrary to the well known saw,
His children kept within the law;
And in the shadow of the steeple;
Grew into very decent people

Which goes to show that one should
pause,
Before believing well known saws.

Husbands and wives were, of course, invited. They have many things in common—these children of parsonage and manse. With the older ones, of course, no evening would be complete without a song fest around the old foot pumped organ.

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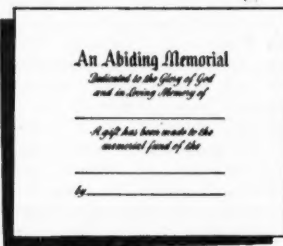
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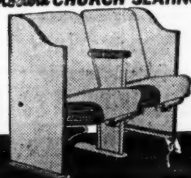
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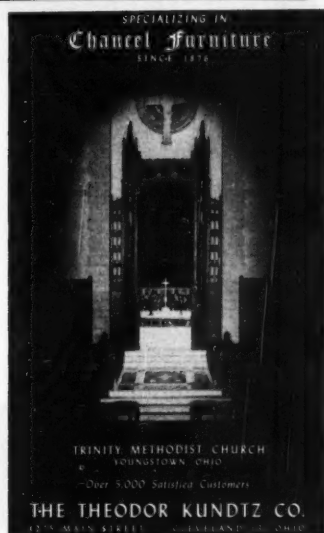
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Why call we Thee our Lord and go our way

As though we had not heard Thee speak of love,

As thou Thou hadst not touched with clay

The eyes of one whose sightless orbs Had no more need of light than his dark soul,

To which Thy deed didst speak

The warm compassion of Thine heart? Why?

Why call we Thee our Lord and live the years

As though the light which broke upon his startled view,

Setting at naught the cargo of his fears

And all the dark forebodings of the mind,

Exhausted were, when he of blindness was set free

By Thy soft touch and benediction whispered low?

Why?

Why call we Thee our Lord, yet never dream

That we, no more than Bartimaeus, see The light that white from Thee canst stream

Into the darkened corners of our lives Where blindness, strange and blithing, dooms concern

For other, without which there can be No faint perception of the image of Thy love?

Why?

Why call we Thee our Lord, but never sense

That words alone have no avail to make Thee so,

That proclamation of our faith in bold pretense,

Unmatched by daily incarnation of Thy mercy sweet,

Is barren of all power to heal

The hates and hurts that make of earth

A bristling camp of discord and of woe?

Why?

Why call we Thee our Lord, yet never learn

The truth for which on Calvary Thou didst hang,

That we, from shallow pratings, might in wisdom turn

Before Thy dying form to stand

Convicted of deep sin in calling Thee our Lord,

While by our deeds we scorn Thy blameless way?

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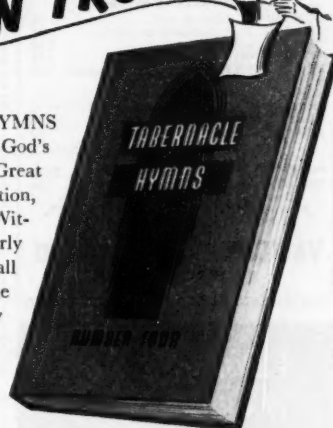
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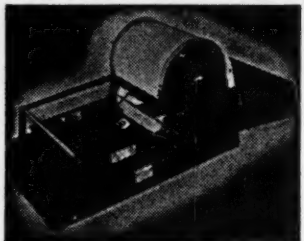
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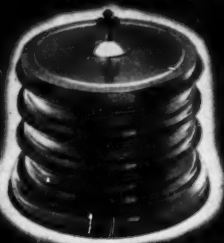
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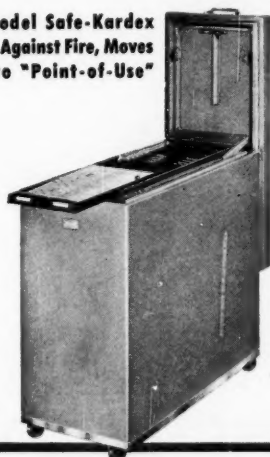
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